



Fourteen miles west of Richmond is an old Virginia plantation, where Thomas Jefferson as a boy went to school, and where many illustrious men of the past two centuries lived and visited.

Tuckahoe—whose quaint name was derived from the tribe of Indians that once lived in the neighborhood—was the first frame dwelling erected west of Richmond, then a frontier settlement known as the "Falls." The house was built about the year 1690 by William Randolph, a wealthy and influential planter, for his son Thomas, and is today considered one of the best specimens of early colonial architecture in the state. It stands, surrounded by stately oaks and elms, on a lofty bluff around whose base the James River winds its lazy way, and in former years the estate included well nigh limitless tracts of land for miles around. So immense was the property that to the members of this wealthy family land was almost valueless and we find in the records of Goochland county one of the most unique deeds of bargain and sale ever put on record.

It was between William Randolph, above, and his cousin, Peter Jefferson, father of Thomas Jefferson. In it Randolph "grants, bargains and sells" unto Peter Jefferson one "certain parcel of land lying on the north side of the Northanna, in the county of Goochland, together with all houses, orchards, gardens, fences, woods, ways, etc., appertaining to same," and in consideration for this receives one of Henry Weatherburn's biggest bowls of Arrack punch. History does not tell us who Henry Weatherburn may have been, but his name is still being wafted down to fame through the fumes of his good Arrack punch.

Tuckahoe house is built in the form of the letter H, giving it much the appearance of two houses. The long saloon hall which connects the two wings is an apartment of much individual interest, and its lofty walls have witnessed many an exciting scene. In it questions of grave interest touching the history of the early colony were discussed and settled; there Washington and his aides were frequently received, and it served many a time as a ball room for the fair dames and gallants of long ago. Special mention is made of this "most commodious apartment" by Lieutenant Thomas Anbury in his "Travels Through America." The latter was one of the English officers of the army of convention captured with Burgoyne at Saratoga and quartered near Charlottesville.

While waiting to be sent to England they were allowed, on parole, to visit the plantation homes of some of their former adversaries, who received them with great hospitality. Lieutenant Anbury gives a long account of his visit to Tuckahoe and also tells that some "low fellows" threatened to set fire to Colonel Randolph's property on account of the presence of the British officers. The fiery colonel resented this insult to his guests with much spirit and made a ringing speech on the ensuing court day, offering five hundred pounds reward for the discovery of those who made use of the threats.

The English officer seemed also much impressed by his host's fondness for horses—a characteristic of all Virginians—and gives the following quaint

account of a fine gray named Shakespeare, which had been imported from England at the beginning of the war and was the pride of the worthy colonel's heart: "There was a stable built purposely for this horse (in which was a bed for the negro who looked after it, that he might be with it at nights). He has a most beautiful head and neck; as to any other points about him it is impossible to say, for the creature was amazingly pampered and fat, and being of the race breed, his legs were so small and slim that they appeared unable to support the weight of his body. From his withers to his tail there was such a groove of fat that you might pour water upon his withers and it would run in a straight line down his tail."

The wings of Tuckahoe house are entered from the saloon through arched doorways, near each of which stands a broad walnut staircase, with beautiful balustrade carved by hand. The flooring is as smooth and perfect as when laid two hundred years ago. A curious feature is that, with the exception of the wrought iron hinges and brass locks on the doors and of the hand wrought nails which fasten the shingles to the roof, no metal whatever was used in building the house, which is held together by wooden pegs. These pegs remain as strong and unyielding as when first put in; in fact, one cannot help being impressed by the durability and solidity everywhere apparent and by the sturdy manner in which the old house has withstood the ravages of time. The rooms are wainscotted in panels of black walnut, cut and made on the spot by English workmen, and so hardened by age as to be

ever put on record.

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SCHOOL HOUSE THAT THOMAS JEFFERSON ATTENDED.

an antiquary—and in one of the "guest chambers" is the high-post bedstead, with its rusty tester, on which Washington slept while a visitor at Tuckahoe.

Near the house, by the old flower garden, with its boxed walks and queer-shaped beds, stands the little building where Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Mann Randolph received their early education. These two, who were afterwards room mates at William and Mary College, were always warm friends, and in Jefferson's letters frequent mention is made of his cousin "Tom" Randolph and their frolics. He often said that one of his earliest recollections was riding on a pillow in front of a servant on horseback to Tuckahoe, when his father was removing from Shadwell in 1745.

In front of the house is a magnificent avenue of elms, whose branches arch the roadway, and further on a double row of venerable cedars form a second avenue for a quarter of a mile or more, until the high road is reached.

About two hundred yards east of the house lies the family vault, hidden from view by grape arbors and shrubbery. Here, as the old black "mamies" tell in awe-struck tones, is the resort of the famous "Frantic Bride" of Tuckahoe, who for many a weary year has paced to and fro, wringing her hands and tearing her flowing locks. No influence, however great, can induce the servants to venture near the spot after nightfall.

The vault is built in a peculiar manner beneath the ground and is only accessible from above. In it repose the dust of many generations of Randolphs, some of whom, we are told, were buried with handsome jewels on. The first interment was that of Mrs. Thomas Randolph, when so many people drove from all portions of the state in their chariots and coaches-and-four, to do honor to the gentle lady's memory, that tales of the great funeral passed down as a sort of legend in the neighborhood.

The Randolph family has always been one of the most distinguished in



TUCKAHOE AS IT LOOKS AT PRESENT.

almost impenetrable to nail or tool. Unfortunately a proprietor of a later generation, seeking to improve, ruined the beautiful paneling with a heavy coat of gray paint.

In all the rooms are found high mantels of quaint design, with immense fireplaces, where in the "brave days of old" Yule logs were piled across the glittering andirons. Some of the tiny panes of glass in the old-fashioned windows are of special interest on account of names and dates cut on them by hands which have long since crumbled into dust. On one pane stands out as clearly as ever, "Thomas Randolph, 1698," and in the northwest room is written in diamond the names of Mary Randolph and of Colonel Ball, over the date March 30, 1780. What a touch of romance that gives. One can almost see the fair colonial belle and her gallant young soldier lover, as they stand here together on that spring day, so long ago, looking out on the broad green fields of Tuckahoe. Some of the rooms still contain pieces of the original furniture of the house—articles which would bring joy to the hearts of

Virginia and its members have held nearly every office in the gift of the state. William Randolph, whom we have mentioned as the builder of Tuckahoe, gave to each of his seven sons an immense plantation, and the name of the estate, as of some principality, was afterwards used to designate the owner. Thus Randolph of Tuckahoe, Randolph of Curles, Randolph of Dungeness, etc., became distinctive titles. One of these sons, John, afterwards went to England, where he was knighted. A later descendant of the family, the brilliant, but eccentric, John Randolph of Roanoke, delighted in following this custom of his ancestors, and always signed himself Randolph of Roanoke.

Tuckahoe passed out of the hands of the Randolph family about fifty years ago. It is now owned by Mr. Richard S. Allen, who takes a worthy pride in preserving this heirloom of the Old Dominion intact and unchanged.

A Cretan Amazon.
As if true to its ancient traditions of myth and fable, Crete has produced in the person of Marterita Karaiskaki, a genuine amazon who is as fearless and as efficient as were the traditional daughters of Hesperia. This young woman is a granddaughter of the noted Karaiskaki, who was one of the heroes of the Cretan revolution in 1821, and the blood of her patriotic grandsire flows freely in her warlike veins. Her great capacity as a leader and her wonderful influence over men have induced the insurgent chiefs to give her a command, and she has ever led her soldiers to victory. The Cretons under her who probably never heard of the island amazons look up to her as a new Jeanne d'Arc, and are ready to follow her in whatever position she elects to lead them. She is an able general, a talented strategist, and is totally wanting in the sentiment of fear. Her love for her native island is boundless. While brave and martial she is, in every sense, womanly. She is pretty, strong, a great horsewoman, a skillful swordswoman and is only 23 years old.

A question of Precedence.
The seven years' struggle for precedence between the Crown Princess Stephanie of Austria and her rivals, the Archduchess Maria Theresa (the wife of the late Archduke Carl Ludwig) and Maria Josepha (wife of the heir presumptive, the Archduke Otto), has been settled by an imperial decree definitely placing the widowed Crown Princess next to the empress, who, however, may nominate her own representative whenever she is absent from any court function.

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

THE Indiana experiment station bulletin 43 says:

Potato scab is a source of material loss to those who grow potatoes for the market, and a great blemish in all cases. It is one of the triumphs of practical botany

(that the cause of this trouble has been traced to a minute germ that feeds on the surface of the potato tuber, and to a less extent on other fleshy roots and tubers. It has also been found that a suitable fungicide will kill the germs on the tubers without injuring the growth of the potatoes. Corrosive sublimate meets these requirements and has been advocated by the Purdue experiment station, where its application originated. So effective has it been found, so cheap and easy to apply, that many large growers, who get extra prices for their crops by having high grade product, have adopted the treatment as a regular thing. The deadly poisonous nature of corrosive sublimate, however, has kept it from coming into general use. It is, therefore, considered a matter of considerable moment to be able to announce the discovery of a new fungicide for potato scab, one that is thoroughly efficient and not poisonous. The new substance is formalin (sometimes called formaldehyde), a watery solution of a gas, not very expensive, and rapidly coming into favor as a general antiseptic, so that it is likely to become still cheaper and better known. It is sold by the fluid ounce, and can be obtained at most drug stores. The method of using the new fungicide is very simple. Eight ounces of the formalin are added to 15 gallons of water, and in this the seed potatoes are soaked for two hours. After taken from the bath they can be cut and planted as usual, either at once or after some time. Formalin is not corrosive, and so can be used in any kind of vessel, and no particular precautions to be observed. It does, however, make the hands smart, if there are any raw spots, and the fumes irritate the eyes and throat. But these are only slight annoyances. Further information about formalin and its use as a fungicide will be given in a bulletin to be issued in a short time. The potato crop of the state of Indiana reaches annually the large figure of over 90,000 acres, and nearly 6,000,000 bushels, and is sometimes larger. The treatment of the seed tubers as here recommended, will materially raise the market value of the crop, and prove a source of profit of no mean proportion. Try it.

J. C. Arthur, Botanist.

To Fight the San Jose Scale.

The recently discovered widespread occurrence of the worst known insect fruit pest of America, the San Jose scale, and the imminent danger of heavy and continuous losses resulting from the common distribution of that insect, have stirred all the interests involved to unusual activity with a view to escaping if possible from so serious a misfortune.

The Ohio State Horticultural Society has lately issued a call for a national conference to be held in Washington with a view to maturing and recommending national and state legislation for preventing the distribution of insects and fungi injurious to fruits. A preliminary conference of official entomologists and professors of horticulture representing eight north-central states was held in Chicago January 29, and an important discussion was had of measures to be taken by the separate states for the inspection of orchards, nursery stock, and the like, and especially for the detection and destruction of the San Jose scale wherever there is reason to suppose that it may have been introduced. It was the common judgment of this conference that both state and national legislation looking to these ends has become imperative. The states represented, either by their official entomologists or by their Experiment Station horticulturists, were Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. The following resolutions were adopted at this meeting:

Resolved, That we recommend to the people of our respective states that in purchasing stock from other than home nurseries they require a certificate of inspection from such nursery specifying that such stock has been inspected by an official inspector, or has been grown on grounds duly inspected, and specifying the result of such inspection.

Resolved, That we endorse the call of the Ohio State Horticultural Society for a National Convention to consider and recommend the most appropriate federal and state legislation for preventing the introduction and spread of noxious insects and fungi in the United States.

The situation in Illinois, while less serious than in many of the states farther east, calls nevertheless for immediate and energetic action. Seventeen colonies of the San Jose scale have thus far been detected in different parts of the state from Waukegan and Scales Mound on the north to Villa Ridge on the south, and from Paris and Danville on the east to Moline, Quincy and Alton on the west. One of the areas infested, that near Sparta, in Randolph county, is equal to about

half a mile square and includes several orchards.

The State Experiment Station has now ready for the press a bulletin on the San Jose scale in Illinois, of which seventeen thousand copies will be presently issued. In the meantime, those especially concerned should write to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C., for the bulletin of that department on the San Jose scale.

S. A. Forbes, State Entomologist.

In Favor of the Cow.

A. S. Neff, in an address before a farmers' institute at St. Joseph, Mo., said in part:

Where are the contented, well-off farmers to-day? Are they in Texas and the sunny South, where cotton is worth 4 cents a pound? Are they on the corn lands of Kansas and Nebraska? Are they in the wheat regions of Minnesota and in the Northwest? No, they are in the famous Elgin dairy district of Illinois, the thrifty dairy section of Iowa, the butter farms of Wisconsin, the western reserve of Ohio, always noted for its cheese and butter. These are the most famous regions, but there are many smaller sections in nearly all the states, where the one business is that of producing butter and cheese, and in all of them the prosperous condition prevails because there is good profit in it, and because it is cash. The cow is always at pasture; while she is roaming over the pasture, nibbling here and there, she is picking up money, and she carries it home; she selects money-producing elements, asserts them, grinds them, rectifies them, and brings the valuable parts to the barn. Perhaps you had not thought of that as you watched old Brindle trudge off to the pasture—that she was going to her work, and that she would work all day for you. Another strong point in her favor is that she enriches the soil. You may devote your farm to cows for one, two or ten years, and it is more fertile and richer every year—while if you raise grain it is just that much poorer every year. Now the cow has done her part—will you do yours? Will you set a few pans of milk and churn the cream off into a bit of feeble-looking, white butter in winter, or a thin, greasy stuff in summer that you are ashamed to take to the store?

Cultivating Lima Beans.

Lima beans are almost without exception a favorite dish. On the tables of the rich and poor alike they are acceptable; yet it is generally the rich alone who have them, from the fact that they are able to get their supply from the market. The poor man either grows his or goes without. The Limas require quite a little extra care and fostering, but this is well expended if a good crop can be secured. May is near and by the second or third week we should begin preparations for the crop. This will seem very late to many, yet nothing is gained by planting too early. If they are the varieties that may be poled, we will give each hill plenty of room; say three and one-half feet between rows and two and one-half feet apart. Around each pole should be thoroughly worked into the soil and then eight or ten beans planted. A Lima bean wants to be planted right side up, too. It will pay to give a little attention to this seemingly unimportant detail. Then be sure to seed heavily enough. Better too many in each hill than that only a few straggling plants be found. When they begin to creep up the pole, keep the lateral that are only a drain upon the strength and vitality of the vine pinched back. "They don't mature and I can't make them." This is the complaint heard on all sides from would-be Lima bean growers. Keep the vines pinched back to mature the few that do set and this difficulty will be surmounted.—Success with the Garden.

Having at Illinois University.

The first reports of the sophomore assault upon the freshman supper overdid the matter a little. The young lady whose eyes were injured has fully recovered. Yet the affair was disgraceful enough. The council of administration of the faculty has investigated the affair very deliberately and carefully and as a result nine students have been expelled. Nearly all of the sophomores and freshmen have given their pledge to the university that they will not again engage in an assault upon other students or do any other thing which will subvert the good order of the institution. President Draper sympathizes with all manner of legitimate sport but it is for the expulsion of any student who injures another, destroys property or interferes with the orderly progress of university affairs. He thinks students who violate the laws should be treated just as other persons who do so. The decided stand taken by the faculty has lifted the sentiment of the university to a higher plane and the outcome has given new confidence to all friends of the institution. Indeed, the university has had many compliments for its vigorous action.

Our Cattle in Mexico.—Mexico is again buying hogs and also cattle of the United States, having reduced her tariff. Kansas City sold Mexico in the year 1896, 33,374 heavy-weight hogs at a valuation of over \$400,000. If cared for and not deliberately thrown away, the trade in live stock, including hogs, will shortly show a balance in favor of the United States. When corn is worth 2 cents a pound, as in Mexico, the hog cannot be fattened to advantage.—Ka.

The mild winters have encouraged the development of seedlings, but we will ultimately get a winter that will sweep away most of the new fads. Give the children a strawberry bed to look after.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON II.—APRIL 11.—CONVERSION OF CORNELIUS.

Golden Text: "Whosoever believeth in Him Shall Have Remission of Sins"—Acts 10, 43—Saint Peter's Mission at Caesarea.

Today's lesson we take up Acts 10: 30-44. Time.—Probably about A. D. 40, days' in which Peter tarried with Simon the tanner of Joppa. Place.—Caesarea, thirty miles north of Joppa, and like it, on the Mediterranean shore, was forty-seven miles from Jerusalem. It owed its splendor and prosperity to Herod the Great, who named it in honor of Augustus Caesar. It became the Roman capital and the pagan metropolis of Palestine.

Synchronistic Note.—While Peter was abundant in labor for the Gospel of Joppa and Caesarea—Paul, now thirty-eight or thirty-nine years of age, was living, apparently in retirement, in Tarsus, his birthplace. Certain members of the Church of Jerusalem, fleeing from the persecution that arose about Stephen, had reached Antioch of Syria, one of the three greatest cities of the antique world, and were now preaching the Gospel to Gentiles who were Jews—no un-learned-of thing. The disciples were first called Christians (in Antioch). 4. Perhaps a little later than this (January 24, A. D. 41), the emperor Gaius was assassinated, and Claudius succeeded him. 5. Herod Agrippa was made king of Judea and Samaria.

Cornelius.—All we know of this man is told in Acts. His name suggests that he was a Roman by birth, and of noble blood. His army rank was equivalent to that of captain in our modern armies—"a centurion of the Italian band." He was not a Jewish proselyte (as is made plain by Acts 10: 28), but a sincere, yet a devout worshiper of the Hebrews' God, and regulated his household on religious principles. He was a kind, poor, and his almsgiving contrasted sharply with the practice of most Roman officers, who were noted for their greed.

The full text follows: 31 And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God. 32 For I have found thee, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner, by the seaside. 33 When he cometh, shall speak unto thee. 34 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore stand up, and pray; for he hath commanded thee. 35 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: 36 But in every nation he that feareth God, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. 37 The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: he is Lord of all: 38 That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached. 39 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power; who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. 40 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: 41 Him God raised up the third day, and showed him openly, for to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead. 42 To whom we give the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. 43 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

HINTS TO THE TEACHER.
These words contain the outline of a notable sermon, preached on an occasion which marked an epoch in the history of Christianity. On that day the door was forever opened for the admission of Gentiles into the Church, and a divine attestation was given to the event by the renewed descent of the Holy Spirit.

I. The preacher was Simon Peter, a man, and not an angel; a man of mingled gold and silver; a man of royal blood; a man of noble birth; a man loyal to Christ; a man with an experience of sin and salvation; a man of clear views and warm heart; a man in whom in communion with Christ God can make great use of such a man as this.

II. The congregation was small, but some of the greatest sermons in the New Testament were preached to an audience of one or two; for example, the Samaritan woman (John 4), Nicodemus (John 3), the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8). This audience was a little roomful of Gentiles just emerging from idolatry. But among them was Cornelius, a sincere seeker after God. Note his traits as shown in this chapter: 1. God-fearing and righteous, though a soldier in a camp. 2. Gentle in spirit. 3. Very strong in godly influence, even the soldiers around him are led to prayerfulness. 4. Living in communion with God. 5. Obedient to the divine command. Such a seeker as this will surely find the way to God.

III. The theme of the discourse was salvation through Christ. Notice how much is told concerning Jesus in this sermon. There is almost an epitome of his life in Peter's compact utterance: an anointed Jesus; a risen Jesus; a crucified Jesus; a risen Jesus; Jesus the Redeemer, the forgiver of sins, the Judge of the world; but most of all, the great truth, now stated boldly for the first time, that all men, of every nation, may find salvation through Christ.

IV. The appeal in this sermon was twofold—to personal experience and to Holy Scripture. Peter's appeal is of his own knowledge. "We are witnesses, and out of the word." To him give all the prophetic witness. "These things are united in every true Gospel sermon. The teacher, as well as the preacher, needs to have both an insight into Scripture and the testimony of his own experience.

V. The effect of the discourse was faith on the part of those who heard it, followed by the descent of the Holy Spirit. Pentecost was repeated with all its divine manifestations: When preacher and hearer surrender their hearts to the influence of the Spirit, the effect of the Gospel is as immediate, direct, and supernatural now as then.

Artificial Diamonds Once More.

The French chemist, Henri Moissan, whose recent visit to this country awoke fresh interest in his experiments on making artificial diamonds by fusing charcoal and iron together in his electric furnace, has, since his return to Paris, somewhat improved his methods. Formerly most of the minute diamonds produced by his process were black in color, but now all are white. They are exceedingly hard, scratching rubies easily, and answering other tests for pure diamonds. It does not appear, however, that Monsieur Moissan has been able to increase the size of the gems that he turns out.

JOSH BILLING'S PHILOSOPHY.

Winning message to endure each other, and that is about all. I look upon most things as false—at best mere sauce for the old ones. Affekishan allways shows a man's weak points, for that a man affords to have he has generally got the best of.

As a general thing, those who are the most afraid to die are those who have done the world the least good while living.