OVER ON THE EASTERN SHORE

Henry A. Wise

About Mr. Wise

Born and reared on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, with its long period of recorded history, Henry A. Wise has become a recognized authority of the area's past. As a scholar of human nature with a deep-seated love of folklore, he could not refrain from recording some of the English traditions of the natives.

Through poetry and prose the author has long proclaimed his love and respect for the land of his birth. He now contributes some of his recollections, his thoughts, his experiences and his research to the mounting collection of Eastern Shore publications.

The humor and realism with which the material is presented may remain unnoticed by all but the most careful reader. All who read these pages can not avoid being impressed by the magnitude of the research and the record of glories of the past mixed with promises of the future.

For

Robert ——

who soon will be a "new

pupil in school"

Brother Henry

Over On The Eastern Shore

by

Henry A. Wise

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"The woods are lovely, soft and deep,

But I have promises to keep,

And miles to go before I sleep,

And miles to go before I sleep."

"I have gathered a posie of other men's flowers

and only the thread that binds them is my own."

Dedicated

to the School Officials and Teachers of Accomack and Northampton Counties who through the years have worked diligently, earnestly, and faithfully to instill in the minds and hearts of their pupils a sense of appreciation of the heritage that is theirs, of the value of the present that came to them through this heritage, and a sense of responsibility for their part in living up to the heritage that is theirs. And above all, to be worthy of this heritage and to pass it on untarnished to future generations.

To:

The Boys and Girls of the Eastern Shore of Virginia:

Know your heritage, for it is well worth knowing.

Study your heritage, for it is only through study that you can know of the effort and labor and sacrifice that your forefathers made and gave in their efforts to establish this heritage for you. Value your heritage, for its value is limitless even though this value can never be measured in dollars and cents. Honor your heritage, for its honor is still held in high esteem by all worthy and honorable men. And above all, live up to your heritage, for it is in this that you may find the ideal for living, the ideal to which all men who have really achieved have aspired and the ideal to which you yourselves may aspire. So live your life that you may never in word or deed in any way sully this heritage that is yours, and thus pass it on to future generations untarnished in any way but, rather, embellished by the contributions you make to the living of today.

Foreword

This is not a history of the Eastern Shore. In fact, it is not a history of anything or a history in any sense of the word. It is simply a compilation of various things, things that many of us have known and perhaps forgotten; things that perhaps should be remembered and then perhaps are not worth being remembered but that once were a part of the life of our Eastern Shore; things that have had their part in making our life on the Eastern Shore what it is today. In this fast changing life of ours, perhaps we need to be reminded that the Eastern Shore has a past, a past to which we can point with pride because that past was filled with men and women who worked and trusted and dared, and through whose struggles and failures and successes we are what we are today. Our Eastern Shore is today what those ancestors of ours helped to make it and then left to us the responsibility of "carrying on" what they had begun.

Many things have been omitted because much has already been written about them. For example, various writers have described the old churches, the old homes, the early academies, the courts and the vestries of the Colonial Period, along with various other phases of early Colonial life. Since this is not a history of anything in particular, there seems to be no necessity to try to repeat what others have done so well. Instead, what others have written has been used very much as "source material" in an effort to put together some of the many things that pertain to the Eastern Shore. Perhaps many of these things may not be of primary importance but they at least represent some phases of our Eastern Shore life that we have forgotten or are most likely to be forgotten. For the history of the Eastern Shore, the history that most of us think about when we think of history, one needs to consult Dr. Susie M. Ames, the Eastern Shore's leading historian, who has written extensively and most interestingly of the social, economic, and religious life of the Eastern Shore, particularly during the Colonial Period; James E. Mears, who in "The Shoreline" in The Eastern Shore News has told the story of both the past and the present Eastern Shore; Mrs. Nora Miller Turman whose "George Yeardley" brought out many phases of the early days of the Eastern Shore; Col. Jennings C. Wise, Lexington, Virginia, one of the first to write a history

of the Eastern Shore, to name just a few of those who have from time to time brought to our attention the past and the present of our Eastern Shore. What I have done is just to gather a few of the posies from the garden of History of these and other writers (with a few of my own remembrances thrown in) and tie these into a "nosegay of remembrance."

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Early Discoveries

To most of us this Eastern Shore of ours began when that little group of English colonists, after weary months of sailing, came into a broad expanse of water that looked to them like a good harbor. This harbor, they later learned from the Indians, was known to the Indians as Chesapeake Bay - Chesapeake, "people of the great saline water." (Gerard, Wise) More welcome than the harbor was the sight of land, two spits of land, one to the north, one to the south, giving them an opportunity to touch land again after those weary months at sea. Being good Englishmen and loyal to their King, it was but natural that they should show their loyalty by naming these two spits of land in honor of their King or in honor of someone near to the King. The southern spit of land they therefore named Cape Henry; the northern spit they named Cape Charles, thus honoring Prince Henry and Prince Charles, sons of their King. (Silly, I know, but I have always been glad that Cape Charles was on our side of the Bay.) The time was the "merrie month of May" and the land the colonists named Cape Henry must have looked to them like the "Land of Paradise," and therefore they must land and possess it. They found it already "possessed" and these original "possessors," the Indians, did not approve of the landing of these strange people. Their disapproval was manifested so strongly that these "strange people" could only hurry back to their ships and look for another landing place. They must have wanted a place that was some distance from the Indians on Cape Henry and this they found when they entered the mouth of a river that they at once named the James River. Sailing some distance up this river they found what seemed to be a good landing place, and Jamestown was settled. Of course they learned later that Indians were here, too, and that this river was known to the Indians as Powhatan River in honor of the Indian king. As to that other spit of land they had named Cape Charles it is more than probable that at that time no one in the Colony gave it another thought. All their thinking was of necessity centered on getting the new Colony started and this was something of a job in itself. Not until a year later, in 1608, did the "adventurous and adventuresome" Captain John Smith feel the Colony was well enough established to permit him to start out on a voyage of discovery. In his "True

Relatione" Captain Smith tells of his voyage along the eastern and western shores of the Chesapeake Bay and the "land across the water," "the other side land," the land bearing the Indian name of "Accawmacke" became known to the people at Jamestown.

While Captain John Smith was the first to give any detailed description of "the land across the water" there is some historical evidence that he was not the first white man to set foot on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Very soon after Columbus made his first memorable voyage in 1492, Spain, France, and later England, started out on voyages of exploration. All were concerned primarily with the search of the Northwest Passage which they thought would bring them to the far-famed "Land of Cathay". Spain, the great explorer of that time, sent her ships all along the Atlantic Coast, establishing colonies here and there. In 1526, Lucas d'Allyon, under a grant from Charles V of Spain, established a colony somewhere on the banks of the James River, apparently near what was later the site of Jamestown. Trouble with the Indians, trouble among themselves, and sickness soon put an end to this Spanish settlement, and Spain sought "other worlds to conquer."

France, too, was interested in this Northwest Passage and in 1523 Francis the First, King of France, commissioned Giovanni da Verrazano to explore the New World in search of the Northwest Passage. Verrazano sailed up the Atlantic Coast, landed somewhere north of Cape Fear, North Carolina, then sailed on up the coast. He seemed to have missed the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay but did make a landing some miles north of what is now Cape Charles. In a recent bulletin, "Early Explorations of the Chesapeake Bay", by Gilbert Byron, Mr. Byron states that Verrazano "anchored his vessel, the 'Dauphine,' in Chincoteague Bay — and marched inland for eight miles until halted by the swamps along the headwaters of the Pocomoke River." According to Mr. Byron, Verrazano was the first white man to set foot on the Eastern Shore.

He seems to have missed the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay but he did land some ten or more miles above Cape Charles. According to Verrazano's letter to Francis the First, he spent three days on the Eastern Shore, went inland west from the seacoast where he landed and finally came to the waters of the Chesapeake Bay. To him it was an almost boundless body of water and he immediately took this to be the great western sea

for which the known world at that time was searching. He returned to his ships, sailed on northward, finally entered the Hudson Bay and the Penobscot River, and then returned to Europe with nothing but disappointment to report. Jennings C. Wise, in his "Early History of the Eastern Shore of Virginia", says this mistake of Verrazano's in regard to the Chesapeake Bay required three generations to correct and that this error continued to be represented on maps until the middle of the sixteenth century. According to the record, then, Verrazano was the first white man to land on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

The next white man to land on this Eastern Shore was unfortunate enough to lose his life here. Bartholomew Gilbert, son of Sir Humphrey Gilbert, who had voyaged off the New England coast, became greatly interested in searching the coast of Virginia (we remember that Queen Elizabeth I had named all this country Virginia) for Sir Walter Raleigh's lost Roanoke Colony. In July, 1603, he entered Chesapeake Bay in search of a good harbor, liked the looks of the land to the north, and landed, probably, somewhere near what we now know as Smith's Island. He anchored about a mile off shore, took most of his small crew with him, and went ashore in search of water and fuel. They had been ashore but a short distance when they were attacked by the Indians. Captain Gilbert and one of his crew were killed, and the others in the party barely managed to reach their boat and return to their ship. To Gilbert's crew there was now no doubt as to what had happened to Raleigh's Colony. (This was the report written by one Thomas Canner, a member of Gilbert's crew, in "A Voyage to Virginia in 1603".)

We next hear of the Eastern Shore from Capt. John Smith when he made his voyage of exploration in 1608. Capt. Smith sailed up the Chesapeake Bay as far north as Wicomico River, crossed the Bay, passing by Tangier, reached the mouth of the Potomac River, explored this river and all the rivers between the Potomac and the James River. His story of his explorations and his experiences is told in his "True Relatione" which, of course, includes the story of Pocahontas saving the life of Capt. Smith. This "True Relatione" makes most interesting reading but we are concerned only with his "relatione" about the Eastern Shore. Capt. Smith, just as Verrazano had, found the Eastern Shore a "most delightful land." "The first people we saw were two grim and stout Salvages upon Cape Charles, - they boldly demanded what we were and what we would; but after many circumstances they seemed very kinde, and directed us to Acco-

mack, the habitation of their Werowance, where we were kindly treated. This King was the comliest, most proper, civill Salvage we encountered. His Country is a pleasant fertile clay soyle, some small creekes; good harbours for small Barks, but not for Ships. — They spake the language of Powhatan, wherein they made such descriptions of the Bay Isles, and rivers, that often did us exceeding pleasure." Another description in his "True Relatione" reads, "Heaven and earth seemed never to have agreed better to have framed a place for man's commodious and delightful habitation" and John S. Wise, in his "End of An Era" is quite sure that Capt. Smith was referring to the Eastern Shore in this description, and of course all Eastern Shoremen agree that it was the Eastern Shore of Virginia that Capt. Smith was describing. Maryland historians also claim this description as applying only to the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

First Settlement On The Eastern Shore

It is very easy to imagine that after Captain John Smith's voyage of exploration in 1608 other voyages of exploration on "the other side land" were made by some one in the Jamestown Colony but there is no record of such voyages until 1613. In that year Sir Samuel Argoll made a visit to the Kingdom of Accawmacke to secure fish and other supplies for what was described as "the starving colonists along the James River." Sir Samuel describes this trip, in part, as follows: "I departed out of the river in my shallop, the first of May, for to discover the East side of our Bay, which I found to have many small Rivers in it, and very good harbours for Boats and Barges, but not for ships of any great burthen; and also great store of Inhabitants, who seemed very desirous of our love, and so much the rather, because they had received good reports from the Indians of Pembrock River, of our curteous usage of them, whom I trading with me for corne, whereof they had great store. We also discovered a multitude of Islands bearing good meadow ground, and as I think, Salt might easily be made there, if there were any ponds digged, for that I found Salt Kernel where the water had overflowne in certain places. Here is also great store of fish, both shel-fish and other. So having discovered along the shore fortie leagues Northward, I returned" etc. Argoll apparently landed on Smith's Island for certainly this would be the best possible place to find "Salt Kernel" and we know that there are a "multitude of Islands bearing good meadow ground" north of Smith's Island. As a result of Argoll's discovery, John Pory, in June, 1614, sent Lieutenant Craddock, with about twenty men, to Smith's Island to boil the sea water down to salt and to catch fish for the people of the Jamestown Colony. The salt works, or whatever was set up to make salt, were located on Smith's Island, the settlement was made on the mainland, and details of men were sent over to the Island to carry on the work of making salt. This settlement on the mainland was somewhere on the banks of what we know now as Old Plantation Creek, some nine or ten miles north of Cape Charles proper. This settlement was known as Dale's Gift — some one has said more in derision than in honor of Governor Dale, as this assignment to make salt was apparently not taken as a special honor by the men under Lieuten-

ant Craddock. This, then, was the first settlement on the Eastern Shore. It was considered so important by the officials of the Jamestown Colony that the group of men sent over by John Pory were supported entirely by the London Company. This means making salt could have been planned as a money making project by the Company but this is only a conjecture. The salt works were still in operation in 1616 for in that year John Rolfe, writing in "Rolfe's Relation," states that in 1616 "there were seventeen men under Lieutenant Craddock at Dale's Gift." By 1619 something had happened to the salt works for in the minutes of the Quarter Court held in February 1619-20 there is this report, referring to the salt works set up by Sir Thomas Dale: "since which time they are wholly gone to rack and let fall, insomuch that by defect thereof the inhabitants are exceedingly distempered by eating pork and other meats fresh and unseasoned; therefore it was referred to a committee to consider with all speed for the setting up again of said salt works," etc. Probably as a result of this report in 1621 John Pory was authorized by Governor Yeardley "to visit the Eastern Shore and select a spot combining the most conveniences for the new works." Pory moved what remained of the old works to a new site and assigned the supervision of the new plant to Maurice Berkely and Miles Pirket and these had under them certain trained salt makers. For the second time the Eastern Shore of Virginia had come to the aid of the colonists at Jamestown.

The First Permanent White Settler

Jennings C. Wise, in his "Early History of the Eastern Shore of Virginia" says "there is a tradition that a number of early settlers in Virginia crossed the Chesapeake Bay in a canoe in 1610 and landed on the Eastern Shore." We are told that these first comers intermarried with the Nassawattox Indians and were found living among them in a state of semi-civilization and savagery when Dale's Gift was first established in 1614. Mr. Wise thinks there is very little foundation for this tradition as neither Captain John Smith, Sir Samuel Argoll, or John Pory, all who wrote of their various experiences with the Indians on their visits to the Eastern Shore, made any reference to such settlers. Of course it is also possible that Englishmen could have been living with the Indians without any of these visitors knowing it. Indians could keep things hidden very nicely when they wanted to do this, and if there were white men living with the Indians in 1610 or after, the white men themselves would not want this to be known, but it could have been possible.

Another of the unknowns is what became of the twenty men who, under Lieut. Craddock, made the first settlement on the Eastern Shore in 1614. There is no record that they went back to Jamestown, though of course they could have done this. The Jamestown record does show that the salt works "went to pieces" after 1616 and one naturally wonders why the salt works "went to pieces" and what became of the men who were supposed to keep it from going to pieces. Could it be that these men just got tired making salt for the colony and went out on their own? If so, they would naturally stay on the Eastern Shore, maybe live with the Indians, maybe not. If they went back to Jamestown they ran the risk of being called deserters or would at least be considered of being guilty of neglect of duty since they had been sent to Dale's Gift by the Governor of the Colony, so where did they go or what became of them? Perhaps it is a far-fetched conclusion but it seems possible that they let themselves get lost in the forests of the Eastern Shore. If so, who was the first settler?

This honor, that of being the first permanent white settler on the Eastern Shore, has been given by many authorities to Thomas Savage. Thomas was probably the youngest member of

the group of colonists who came to Virginia in 1607, being but thirteen years old at this time. Captain Newport, probably in an effort to show his friendship for the Indians, gave Thomas to Powhatan in 1608, and Powhatan gave to Captain Newport at the same time an Indian boy, Namotacke, probably the same age as Thomas Savage. This seems more of an exchange than a gift and this is probably what it was. At any rate, Thomas lived with the Powhatans for some years, learned their language, and was of course on very friendly terms with both Indians and whites. To Powhatan he was very much like a son and this no doubt aroused the jealousy of Opecancanough. Evidently, Thomas sensed this and left Powhatan, though there is no record as to when he left the Indians to go back to Jamestown. Evidently he thought it wise to put as much distance as possible between himself and Opecancanough for in 1619 Thomas Savage is found living on the Eastern Shore, on very friendly terms with Debedeavon, the Laughing King of the Accawmackes. In 1619 Debedeavon gave to Savage a large tract of land between Cheriton Creek and King's Creek which today we know as Savage's Neck. One Captain John Martin, who visited the Indians under Debedeavon in April, 1619, reported that he found Savage "well established in their councils" which indicates that Savage must have been on the Eastern Shore before 1619. At least we know definitely that there was at least one permanent settler on the Eastern Shore in 1619 and that he was on very friendly terms with the Indians. All of which means that there was a definite "first settlement" in 1614, the salt makers under Lieutenant Craddock. By 1619 there was definitely one white settler with large land holdings, Thomas Savage, so the settlements on the Eastern Shore could be considered permanent.

The Accawmacke Indians

Actually, not too much is known about the Indians on the Eastern Shore. Some of the things we know about them, of course, are based on fact; some are based on tradition and therefore may or may not be fact. Verrazano said nothing about them except that they were "a comely people" but he only came in contact with them long enough to capture a boy about eight years old to take back to France with him. He would have captured a girl who was with the boy when he seized the boy "but it was impossible because of the loud shrieks she uttered as we attempted to lead her away." He also describes the girl as being "very beautiful and very tall" and of the Indians in general "We found them fairer than the others, and wearing a covering made of certain plants, which hung down from the branches of the trees." Verrazano also says: "We cannot describe their habitations as they are in the interior of the country, but from various indications we conclude they must be formed of trees and shrubs." And he adds: "Of their other customs we know nothing; we believe, however, that all the people we were among live in the same way." After capturing the Indian boy, Verrazano was very anxious to get back to the protection of his boats so he apparently did not take time to learn more about the Indians.

Capt. John Smith was somewhat more specific. He had been associated with the Indians along the James River for about a year when he first became acquainted with the Accawmacke Indians; he was familiar with the language of the Powhatans, and had learned enough of the customs of the Powhatans not to be surprised at the customs of Indians he found anywhere else in the Virginia colony. Capt. Smith thus describes his landing "upon Cape Charles" when he began his voyage of exploration in 1608: "The first people we saw were two grim and stout Salvages upon Cape Charles, with long poles like Javelings, headed with bone, they boldly demanded what we were, and what we would; but after many circumstances they seemed very kinde, and directed us to Accomack, the habitation of their Werowance, where we were kindly intreated. This King was the comeliest, most proper, civill Salvage we incountered. - They spake the language of Powhatan, wherein they made such descriptions of the Bay Isles, and rivers, that often did us exceeding pleasure."

As we know, Captain Smith sailed up the Chesapeake Bay as far as Wighcocomoco, and wherever he stopped his welcome from the Indians was very much like the welcome he found when he landed "upon Cape Charles." Threats and fury at first but these seemed to disappear when the Indians learned that these strange men apparently meant no harm to them. Looking back at it after a matter of three centuries, the pathetic thing is that it was the white man who deceived the Indians, not the Indians who at first deceived the white man. To the Jamestown colony all the Indians on the Eastern Shore were known as the Accawmackes. Captain Smith found, however, that there were numerous tribes that made up the Accawmacke Indians, united under one king, the Werowance, and at the time of Captain Smith this Werowance was Debedeavon, the "laughing king of Accawmacke." Also at this time Debedeavon "was Lord of all he surveyed," so if Powhatan was his overlord it must have been in name only. There was too much water between Debedeavon and Powhatan for the alliance, or whatever arrangement it was, to have been very strong. Then, too, as we shall see later, Debedeavon's friendship for the white man became stronger than his friendship or allegiance to Powhatan.

Jennings C. Wise, in his "History of the Eastern Shore", is of the opinion that when Captain John Smith first landed at Cape Charles in 1608, he probably found Debedeavon at his "principal village, Accawmacke," some distance inland from the Bay on the shore of Cherrystone Creek. All records, however, seem to indicate that the "State seat of the Emperor of the Eastern Shore and King of the Great Nussawattocks" was the village of Debedeavon, located on Nandua Creek, on the site of what we now know as Cedar View. Numerous small tribes made up "the Great Nussawattocks" and the location of most of these tribes can be very largely determined by place names known to all Eastern Shoremen.

Just above Cape Charles were the Magothas, on Magothy Bay. Not far from the Magothas were the Mattawames under King Pomoccomon around Hungar's Neck. Then came King Tepiapon and his small band of Nussawattocks in Elliot's Neck. Traveling north still there were the Accohanocks and the Curratocks, under King Andiaman, names we now know as Occahonnock and Curratuck and Craddock, all names of creeks. Then we find the State seat of Debedeavon, as stated above, on Nandua Creek. Then came the Pungoteague tribe on Pungoteague Creek, and on Anancock Creek the village of Ekeeks, King of the Anan-

cocks. Neighbors of the Anancocks were the Chesconnessex, under King Nowmetrawen, all these on the Bayside, and all with some connection with the Powhatans.

On the Seaside were the Gingoteagues, the Assateagues, in the northern end of the Virginia Eastern Shore. The king of the Gingoteagues was Parahokes, and the Assateagues made up of a number of tribes under the Emperor of Assateague. Evidence indicates that these tribes were part of the Algonquins which explains why these were the tribes that gave Colonel Scarburgh and the Eastern Shoremen generally so much trouble. Going down the Seaside we find the Kicotanks, the Matchateagues, the Matomkins, the Matchipungoes, again names that we today find on our creeks. Because of their geographical location the Indians in the northern part of the Eastern Shore held their allegiance to Maryland rather than to Virginia, and the Maryland records show that Maryland was often called on to protect these Indians from what they considered depredations by the white men of the Virginia Colony, particularly against Colonel Scarburgh, "the bad white chief."

Debedeavon seems to have had no connection with the tribes on the Seaside, another indication that these Indians were not members of the Powhatans. Until his death in 1657 Debedeavon remained the friend of the white man. One evidence of this friendship was that he warned the authorities at Jamestown in 1620 that Opecancanough was plotting against the white men but these authorities seem not to have taken him seriously. He had become familiar enough with the customs of the white man to make his will and this will, dated 1657, is on record in the Northampton County Court. In this will he names his daughter, Nandua, as his successor and cautions her to remain always a friend to the white man. Nandua's "Seat of State" was on Nandua Creek, the same site that was her father's Seat of State.

The story of the Indians on the Eastern Shore of Virginia is the same as the story of the Indians everywhere in Virginia and in other parts of our country. As more and more white men came to the Eastern Shore the Indians found their lands being taken over by these newcomers, sometimes with payment, sometimes without. The first John Wise, for instance, acquired by grant and by purchase a large grant of land on Chesconnessex Creek and paid the Indians six Dutch blankets for their rights to this land, so we have the "Dutch blanket tract" recorded in the records of the Accomack County Court. Then, too, the Indians soon became

easy prey to the white man's diseases. Familiar to all is the story of the sailor who had contracted smallpox. He was put ashore and isolated but escaped from the cabin in which he was confined and wandered around amongst the Indians. These in turn contracted smallpox with the usual result. Tradition has it that many of the Indians believed that the sailor had been deliberately turned loose so that he might spread this dread disease among the Indians to help in their extermination. There is also the familiar story of Colonel Scarburgh's method of getting rid of the Indians. Apparently more than any of the leaders of his time, Colonel Scarburgh seems to have hated the Indians. He played so many tricks on them that to the Indians he was known as "the Conjurer." He played the same sort of tricks on the white man whenever he could do so, and the records indicate that he could play these tricks rather frequently. One of the "tricks" he played on the Indians eliminated quite a number of them and most certainly did not change the thinking of the Indians who were left that the Colonel was both a Conjurer and a "wicked white man." The story, told quite frequently on the Eastern Shore, especially when the name of Colonel Scarburgh is mentioned, runs like this: Colonel Scarburgh sent messengers to the Indians to tell them that the Great White Spirit had commissioned him to deliver a message to them and that this message would be delivered at a certain time and a certain place on a certain day and the Indians were to assemble at this place on the date and time named to hear this message. Probably somewhat accustomed to receiving and obeying orders from the white men, the Indians dutifully obeyed the instructions they received and at the proper time found themselves assembled before the "Conjurer." The "Conjurer" ordered them to assemble in a ditch he had prepared, leading from the creek shore into a group of pines at the head of the ditch. Unknown to the Indians, of course, the "Conjurer" had a cannon concealed in the bushes and trees at the head of the ditch and after haranguing the Indians for a while he ordered this cannon fired into the midst of the assembled Indians. If any Indians escaped they were so badly frightened that they fled as far from the "Conjurer" as it was possible for them to flee. Unfortunately, there seems to be no doubt as to the accuracy of this tradition, the only question seeming to be where it occurred. One report places it on the Colonel's plantation, Hedra Cottage; another places it far to the north of Hedra Cottage, somewhere along the coast in what we know now as Metompkin District. Wherever it may have occurred - if it occurred - it was at least typical of the record the Colonel made in his numerous

dealings with people and apparently in his efforts to have things go the way he wanted them to go. The treatment by some of the white settlers, the encroachment on Indian lands by some of the same settlers, and disease, all contributed to the gradual disappearance of the Indian, and Robert Beverly, writing about 1700 or later tells us that "the Indians of Eastern Virginia, in 1700, were almost wasted." Such Indian towns and people as existed at that time could not "together raise 500 fighting men."

And yet all this should not give the impression that the white settlers on the Eastern Shore were not friendly to and with the Indians and did not try to protect them from unjust treatment by some of the settlers. Numerous court records in what is now the Northampton County Court attest to the fact that the authorities at that time made it their business to see that the Indian "got his just rights" and was given the protection of Court. Unfortunately, the history of the Indian all through this country of ours has been very much the same, they "just wasted away."

Indian Names

Jennings C. Wise has a complete record of Indian names and their meaning and I quote from him: Accawmacke: "The land across the water," "the other side place," "on the other side of the water place." Accohanoc—Occahannock: "people of the bending (curving) stream," "long winding river." Occahannock Creek is one of the few creeks on the Shore showing rather high bluffs on either side and these make Occahannock the "prettiest creek on the Shore." Chesconnessex: "Place of blue birds." Chesapeake: "people of the great saline water." Chincoteague: "large stream," "inlet." Kicotank (Kecoughtan): "visiting place." Mattapony: "Bad bread" or "no bread at all." Matomkin-Mattemikin-Metompkin: "to enter a house." Machapunga-Machipongo: "bad dust" or "much dust." Anancock-Onancock: "foggy." Pungoteague: "sand fly river." Nandua: "Queen of the Nussawattocks." the only Indian queen of Virginia Indian history. Wachapreague: An Indian princess, probably daughter of Nandua.

Courts And Courthouses

As stated previously, very little is known as to what became of the men who came with Lieut. Craddock in 1614, to Smith's Island, to make salt for the Colony. After 1616 the salt works were reported "in a sad state of repair" so salt makers must either have returned to Jamestown or taken up lands for themselves somewhere on the Eastern Shore, or perhaps, as tradition has it, made themselves homes with the Indians. We do know that Thomas Savage was well established on the Eastern Shore by 1620 and it is very easy to assume that other white men had settled here also. From 1620 on, the records of the Virginia Company show that grants of land were rather frequently made, one of the first of these being made to Secretary John Pory in 1620, this grant being five hundred acres of land "and twenty Tenants to be planted, thereupon, whereof Tenn to be sent this year and Tenn the next Yeare." Secretary Pory selected lands bordering on King's Creek and sent over his first ten tenants in 1620. Pory's other tenants came over a year later. About this same time King Debedeavon "gave to the Governor, Sir George Yeardley, all the land between Hungar's Creek and Cheriton Creek" (Jennings C. Wise)

Other settlers soon followed. There were no Indian troubles and the colony at Jamestown was constantly beset by these; the climate was better for there seemed to be no sickly swamps such as surrounded Jamestown; the soil was very fertile and responded rapidly to cultivation; then man's desire throughout all the ages seems to have been "to get away from his fellowman" and those who had settled on the Shore were "masters of all they surveyed." They were not affected by the regulations of the Jamestown Colony; they did not have the Council to tell them what to do or not to do so from 1626 on "land patents were issued in great numbers." (Hotten's Immigrants) By 1629 the number of inhabitants had increased to such an extent that regular representatives were sent to the House of Burgesses from that date on. In the Assembly of 1629-1630 Accomack was represented by Captain Thomas Graves, Captain Edmund Scarburgh, Obedience Robins, and Henry Bagwell. Accomack continued to be represented in the Assembly until the time of the Northampton Protest, of which more later. Unfortunately, wherever the white man has gone it soon develops that he cannot "get on" with himself and the Kingdom of Accaw-

macke was no exception to this generalization. English law applied in Accawmacke just as it did in Jamestown but the strong men in the colony frequently used this law to their own advantage and the weak or the poor had no redress. The nearest Court was at Hampton or Jamestown and getting to either of these places was practically out of the question for those who most needed the protection of the law. The General Assembly finally recognized this situation and in 1632 established a Monthly Court for Accomack. This Court consisted of a presiding officer, "the Commander of Acchawmacke", and six Commissioners — Obedience Robins being the first Commander. They had jurisdiction over all petty cases originating on the Eastern Shore if the amount in question "did not exceed one hundred pounds of tobacco, and to the punishment of offenses not involving life nor limb." The first record we have of the meeting of this Court was "7th Day of January, 1632." Naturally there was no Courthouse so Court was held in the home of the Commander or some member of the Court.

Jennings C. Wise states that the first courthouse for Northampton County was built just after the division of what was originally known as Accomack County into the counties of Northampton and Accomack, this occurring in 1662. This courthouse was located at "Town Fields," on the west side of a "gutt that empties into King's Creek near the present city," the "present city" having reference to the original settlement on land granted to Secretary Pory. This building, constructed by Colonel William Waters, which was in use in 1671, cost 7,122 pounds of tobacco. This seems to have been a temporary structure, for in 1680 a site for a new courthouse was selected, this site being between the "Horns of Hungar's Creek," known as "Peachburg," on the land of Colonel William Kendall, who gave 300 acres to the county as a site for the new courthouse, this site being equally distant between Bridgetown (or Nassawattocks) and "Old Plantation." Later on, the present courthouse was constructed near the site of the courthouse erected in 1680, and Peachburg became Eastville. The oldest continuous court records in this country are found at Eastville, these records bearing the date of 1632, the year that the first court on the Eastern Shore was established. The Court meeting here served the entire Eastern Shore of Virginia and was known as the Accomac Court until 1642 when Colonel Obedience Robins was instrumental in having the General Assembly pass an act as follows: "Be it further enacted and informed that the plantation and county known as Achomack shall be knowne and called by the county of North'ton." (Act of March 18, 1642) Despite the authorized

change of name for the peninsula the name Accomack had become too well established to drop altogether, so references in the General Assembly sometimes referred to Northampton, sometimes to Accomack.

Events in England, of course, had their effect upon Virginia. Cromwell came into power in England, and Virginia somewhat reluctantly had to accept his Parliamentary Government though Virginia had also declared her allegiance to King Charles I and offered protection to his son, Prince Charles. When the Protectorate ended in 1659, Virginia elected Sir William Berkeley Governor in 1660, but also declared that "the supreme government of the Colony" should rest in the Assembly. The Eastern Shore was as loyal to the Royal Crown as was the rest of Virginia, probably a little more so, for the Protectorate seems to have had few friends in Accawmacke. Ultimately Virginia had to accept the government of the Protectorate though, fortunately, Cromwell was so much engrossed with the Commonwealth at home that he had little concern for England's Virginia Colony. It was very natural that during this period the spirit of independence developed and strengthened, as shown in the declaration of the Assembly when the Assembly elected Sir William Berkeley Governor in 1660.

When the Court for Accawmacke was established in 1632, Henry Bagwell, Gent., was appointed Clerk of the Court and retained this position when Accawmacke was named one of the eight original shires in 1634.

When the name of the county was changed to Northampton in 1642, the first Court was composed of Argoll Yeardley, Esq., Commander and Col. Obedience Robins, Capt. William Roper, John Wilkins, William Andrew, Philip Taylor, Edward Douglas. All clerks of the courts were appointed by the Governor at this time. Later the authority for this appointment was given to the courts and then later the power of appointment of clerks of courts was given to the Secretary of State since the clerks of courts were considered as being deputies of the Secretary of State. This power of appointment remained with the Secretary of State throughout the Colonial Period.

When the name of the county was changed from Accawmacke to Northampton, the most thickly settled part of the peninsula seems to have been along the Bay shore, probably from Nussawattocks Creek, along Hungar's Creek to King's Creek. Perhaps it was but natural that the main interests of the government au-

thorities, both at Jamestown and on the peninsula, centered around this most thickly settled portion of the peninsula. At the same time, however, a number of "great planters" had established themselves on plantations some distance from Hungar's Creek, along Occohannock Creek, along Nandua Creek, along Pungoteague Creek, along Onancock Creek, on the bayside; at Matomkin, Watchapreague, and Machipungo Inlets, and Magothy Bay and Bullocks Channel on the seaside. Jennings Wise says these planters were a law unto themselves, "ruling their tenants and conducting their affairs in a primitive though generally a just manner." They had become so much a "law unto themselves" that they seemed to have resented any interference by the Court or by any of the county officials; at any rate, the Court at The Horns was too far away to be of any concern for these planters, so it was but natural that the planters in the upper part of the peninsula should have a court of their own, especially when one of these planters was Colonel Edmund Scarburgh. They wanted a court of their own, hence the division of Northampton County into Northampton and Accomack counties. (One will note that "Accomack" is spelled in many different ways in this report but the spelling used is the spelling found in the various records on which the report is based.)

Court Established In Accomack County

The need for another court on the Eastern Shore peninsula had evidently been made known to the General Assembly as evidenced by instructions given the Governor by the Assembly in July, 1653, when the Governor was instructed to "look into the division of the County." Following this, came the Act of March 1655-6, providing for two jurisdictions on the peninsula. For various reasons — most of these reasons having to do with the antagonism existing between Royalists and the Parliamentary leaders, as well as between the Puritans and the Cavalier groups—perhaps all these reasons could be summed up in the almost "eternal conflicts" between Colonel Obedience Robins and Colonel Edmund Scarburgh. Colonel Robins was a man of law and order; Colonel Scarburgh was a man who believed in getting what you wanted in any way you could get it; and Colonel Scarburgh's method of "getting it" was rather frequently called into Question by Colonel Robins. This also meant that Colonel Scarburgh was more or less frequently in trouble with the authorities, so much so that on several occasions he was compelled to "flee the Colony." Very naturally, perhaps, Colonel Scarburgh wanted to get as far away from Colonel Robins as possible and thereby hangs at least a part of the tale that led to the division of the two counties as they now exist.

We have already seen that as more and more settlers came to the peninsula they located farther and farther to the north. This was also a very natural movement. Large tracts of land had already been taken up by the settlers who came first. They settled near one another, at least for a time: the Yeardleys on Mattawaman Creek, the Savages on King's Creek, the Robinses on Cheriton Creek, the Upshurs on Nassawattocks Creek. North of this creek lies what afterwards became the lower part of Accomack County, and Jennings C. Wise gives such an interesting description of the men who settled in the upper part of the peninsula that his description is quoted in full: "The King himself, Colonel Edmund Scarburgh, held court on Occahannock Creek (Occahannock Creek later became the dividing line between the two counties). Next came the Lord Bishop of Craddock's Creek, or the Rev. Thomas Teackle, champion of the Anglican faith, and who was later accused by his royal master of trying to poison him, and

make off with the Queen, Lady Scarburgh. The various barons or feudal lords of the upper peninsula were seated as follows: the Littletons on Nandua Creek, the Prince or Charles Scarburgh on Pungoteague Creek, the Wests and the Joyneses on Onancock Creek, and the Wises on Chesconnessex Creek. On the seaside were the Corbins at Chincoteague and the Bowmans, Croppers, Baylys, and Parkers along Matompkin Inlet and Folly Creek."

All of these were a long way from the court at The Horns, or Eastville, and while we know that Colonel Scarburgh wanted to be as far away from this court as he could get, it might also be possible that some of the "Barons" wanted to be some distance from this court also. (Note Wise's description of the "King," the "Prince," the "Barons." Be that as it may, it was a long distance from Corbin Hall or Chesconnessex Creek to Eastville so, again, it was but natural that a second court had to be established and the only way to establish a second court was to establish a second county, and out of all this came Northampton and Accomack Counties as we know them today. The thing of most interest is how they came to be as they are.

For a long time it was thought that Colonel Robins was one of the Commissioners who helped to establish the line between the two counties and that, as usual, Colonel Scarburgh "had put something over on Colonel Robins." We know from the records that this could not have been possible since Colonel Robins died in 1662.

While there seems to be no record of the action of the General Assembly, every indication is that the Assembly authorized the division of the peninsula in 1662. The records do show that there was no Accomack County in 1661 but that there was an Accomack County in 1663, hence it had to be in 1662 that the division was authorized. A commission had to be appointed to make this division so it was but logical that the people of the upper part of the peninsula should select Colonel Scarburgh as their Commissioner. The people in the lower part of the peninsula would have just as naturally selected Colonel Robins but he had recently died, so Colonel William Waters, then Northampton's representative in the House of Burgesses, was selected as their Commissioner. Why the dividing line was established as it was, and is, history sayeth not, but evidently the people in Northampton thought they knew the reason as shown in the "Northampton Grievances of 1676," this grievance stating that the people of the county "Do feel aggrieved that in the division

of the peninsula, Accomack should have gotten so much the greater share and we do conceive that it was occasioned by Colonel Edmund Scarburgh, the Commissioner on the part of Accomack, having outwitted Colonel William Waters, the Commissioner on the part of Northampton."

With Accomack again established as a county, the next question was the establishment of a Court for the County and the selection of a place where this Court would be held. Pungoteague was selected as the site for the Court and the first meeting of the Court was held April 21, 1663. Whitelaw, "Virginia's Eastern Shore", says "that for the first few months in 1663 the meetings were held at the home of Anthony Hoskins, then at the home of Thomas Fowkes, or the tavern of Thomas Fowkes, and that the Thomas Fowkes tavern later became the tavern of John Cole" or as it was later better known, "Cole's Tavern." Therefore, the records of the Accomack County Court as we know it today date back to 1663 and this first record is one of the cherished possessions in the Clerk's Office at Accomac. The record of this first Court begins as follows: "At a court held in Accomack County the 21st Aprill by his Majesty's justices of the Peace for the said county in the fifteenth year of the Raigne of our Sovreign Lord Charles the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland — King defender of the faith, and in the year of our Lord God 1663. Present, Anto. Hodgins, Captain George Parker, Mr. Rev. Brown, Mr. West, Mr. John Wise."

Court continued to be held at Pungoteague for fifteen or more years, probably in Cole's Tavern. So far as the records show there was no courthouse at Pungoteague, but in 1674 the Court made a contract with one John Barnes to build a "more satisfactory jail, which was to be fifteen feet in length and ten in width, and it was to stand within one hundred feet of the courthouse." And now we digress a bit. For many years the King of England had been very anxious to have towns and villages develop throughout his domain in Virginia. Certain Acts were passed encouraging these towns, first for the purpose of general defense and, second, for the purpose of opening up new territory and thus encouraging trade. The settlers on the Eastern Shore were not greatly interested in helping carry out the wishes of the King. They were planters; they had settled largely on the banks of the numerous creeks where they had their own landing places on these creeks, and they much preferred to being "lords of the manor" rather than settling in towns, hence the King's program, so far as Northampton and Accomack were concerned, made very

little progress. When Pungoteague was selected as the site of the Court in 1663 it was "probably something of a town" but it was at the lower end of the County and the County was growing, and while there is nothing in the record to show this, it is more than probable that the people in the upper end of the County were beginning to feel that they had to travel too far to get to court. For whatever reason, in 1680 the Court entered an order directing Major Charles Scarburgh "to proceed with the building of a courthouse on the land chosen by the General Assembly for the county town," this "county town" being Onancock, so designated by the Acts of Assembly of 1680, the site being described as "Calvert's Neck on the northwest side at the head of an Anchor Creek." While the Court moved to Onancock in 1680, the courthouse evidently was not built until later as the records show that "Court was held at the residence of John Wise on Chesconnessex Creek as late as 1683." Onancock, therefore, is one of the oldest towns on the peninsula and remained as the county seat until about 1786.

In addition to the construction of a courthouse the County Court later ordered the construction of a Clerk's Office and a warehouse. We need to remember that tobacco was largely the money of Virginia at this time; salaries of the ministers and other officials were paid in tobacco, fines and other obligations were paid in tobacco, hence a warehouse was almost a necessity. Onancock was somewhat "off the beaten track" and apparently there was a movement to have the county seat located at some place more convenient to all parts of the County so "about 1786" a new courthouse was erected on the land of Richard Drummond and the courthouse in Onancock abandoned.

The "old courthouse" served the needs of the County for nearly a century and a half but during this time the population had increased greatly and the courthouse was no longer able to serve the needs of the County. About 1895 the question of a new courthouse came under consideration and this brought up the question of moving the courthouse to another site. Parksley was becoming a "good sized town" and the leaders in the town thought it would be a very good thing for the town if the proposed new courthouse could be located in Parksley. This started a movement to have the site of the courthouse changed from Drummondtown to Parksley. Such a change had to be first approved by the Board of Supervisors for Accomack County. Feeling both for and against such a movement was quite strong throughout the County and the members of the Board of Super-

visors were subjected to all sorts of pressures. When the question finally came to a vote the members of the Board from Metompkin and Atlantic Districts voted to move the courthouse to Parksley, the members of the Board from Lee and Island Districts voted to keep the courthouse at Accomac. This, of course, meant a tie vote, and the chairman of the Board would have to cast the vote that would break the tie. My father, Edward S. Wise, was the member of the Board from Pungoteague District and was at this time chairman of the Board. His vote was cast in favor of keeping the courthouse at Accomac, or Drummondtown, so the latest, and probably the last, movement to move the courthouse failed. Plans for the construction of the courthouse on the present site were immediately developed and the present courthouse was officially completed in 1899.

Unfortunately, the old courthouse, located on the northeast corner of the courthouse green, was torn down, to be replaced by the new courthouse. And of this, Whitelaw says "architecturally, it is far from being an improvement on the old building."

Accomack County's Courthouse Green is very much like all other courthouse greens in Virginia, as well as in all Southern States, with one exception: it has no Confederate monument, such as is found on almost every courthouse green in the Southern States. When the movement to move the courthouse to Parksley failed somebody decided that, in order to compensate Parksley for its intangible loss it would be a benevolent gesture to locate the Confederate monument at Parksley instead of at the county seat, so the Confederate monument, erected by the Harmanson-West Camp of Confederate Veterans, was located in Parksley.

Probably there was a good bit of "politicking" done in connection with the effort to change the site of the courthouse from Drummondtown to Parksley.

Messrs. John and Alfred Edmonds tell of the trip their father, John W. Edmonds, founder and publisher of the Peninsula Enterprise, took to Chincoteague to enlist the support of the member of the Board of Supervisors for Islands District in retaining the Courthouse at Accomac and his success in doing this. Going to Chincoteague was something of an undertaking in those long ago days. One had to go to Wishart's Point - and driving to Wishart's Point from Accomac was no short trip. At Wishart's Point one took the boat to Chincoteague, spent the

night at Chincoteague, and returned by boat to Wishart's Point, taking practically two whole days for the trip. With Mr. Edmonds' persuasive powers the member from Islands District joined the member from Lee District to keep the courthouse on and at its original site. With all due respect to Parksley the County generally today feels that the decision to keep the courthouse at Accomac was the right decision.

Accomack County has another distinction. It is probably the only county in Virginia that has the spelling of the County's name established by legislative enactment. In a bill introduced by State Senator George L. Doughty, the General Assembly of Virginia decreed that the name of the County should be spelled with a "k" - Accomack - to distinguish the name of the County from the name of the town, which the Postal authorities had said should be spelled without the "k". This was somewhat similar to what the Legislature of Arkansas had done years before the enactment in Virginia as to the spelling of Accomack. In Arkansas the trouble was with pronunciation. People outside of the State persisted in calling the State "Ar-Kansas" instead of "Arkansaw" so the Legislature decreed that the name of the State should be "Arkansaw", with the accent on the "saw".

Accomack and Northampton Counties have one other distinction that many of our Virginia historians fail to recognize. When President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation Accomack and Northampton Counties, five other counties in Virginia, the newly-formed State of West Virginia, and thirteen parishes in Louisiana were specially excepted - "which excepted parts are, for the present, left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued." The reason for this, of course, was that these "excepted parts" were already under the control of the Federal Army. This meant that the slaves in the "excepted parts" were technically not set free until the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution on December 18, 1865. Accomack and Northampton Counties joined the other counties of Virginia in voting for secession, but Chincoteague Island, though of course a part of Accomack County, voted 138 to 2 to remain in the Union. The flag of the United States was flown on Chincoteague Island throughout the War Between the States.

The Parishes

Because of the frequent references in Eastern Shore history to "the Upper and Lower parishes" in both Accomack and Northampton Counties, as well as to "Hungar's Parish" and "the Accomack Parish" some confusion has naturally developed as to which parish was what and where it was. According to Jennings Wise and Whitelaw, the story of the parishes goes something like this:

The coming of the Rev. Francis Bolton to the Eastern Shore may very easily be taken as the coming of the Church of England to the Eastern Shore, and the Church of England was the established church in the Virginia Colony. The Colony records do not show when Rev. Bolton came to the Eastern Shore but in 1623 the Governor and Counsell ordered that "that Mr. Bolton minister" should receive for his salary "10 lb. of Tobacco and one bushell of Corne for every Planter and Tradesman above the age of sixteene years at the time of the Cropp." Apparently the name of the parish became Accomack as that was the name of the plantation which then constituted the parish. When Accomack became one of the eight original shires in 1634, the parish automatically became known as the Accomack Parish and retained this name until 1643 when the name of the County was changed from Accomack to Northampton County. In that same year the county authorities, and these authorities were probably the Vestry of the Church, requested the General Assembly to divide the County into parishes because of "the great inconvenience for the inhabitants to be all of one parish, the northern boundary to be the northeard side of said King's Creek to Nussawattocks." This was probably as far north as settlements extended at that time. After this date, settlements extended very rapidly so that in 1647 there was another request to the General Assembly for a change in the dividing line between the two parishes and that the two parishes be known as the Upper Parish and the Lower Parish. This request was approved and the Upper Parish was known for a while as Nussawattocks Parish. Since the first church in the Parish was already known as Hungars Church, this parish soon became known as Hungars Parish. This included what we know now as the lower part of Accomack County. When the Shore was divided into two counties in 1663 the territory north of Occohannock Creek became

Accomack County and automatically Accomack Parish.

Conditions changed even in those long ago days. In 1691 Northampton County again requested the Governor and the General Assembly to make a change in the parishes, this time requesting that "the said parishes might be Joyned in one and go by the name of Hungars Parish" the reason for this request being that "the Inhabitants of both parishes are so burdened that they are not able decently to maintaine a minister in each parish." This request was granted and again Northampton County became one parish, Hungars Parish.

When the present Accomack County was established in 1663, one of the first acts of the Court for Accomack County was to "Summon twelve vestry men to the next Court," its purpose seeming to be to take care of the spiritual needs of the County as well as its material needs. According to Whitelaw, the line dividing the two Counties in 1663 was considerably below Occohannock Creek and Northampton County did not approve of this. The controversy over this dividing line was not settled until 1688, when Accomack withdrew north of Occohannock Creek and accepted the line between the two Counties as we know it today.

The Northampton Protest

Many years ago a Virginia critic remarked that "Virginia was always protesting about something." Mayhap Virginia was, and still is, "always protesting about something," but history shows that throughout the years protests made by Virginia had much to do with making this country of ours the Nation that it was, and is, today. However, despite the numerous protests with which Virginia is credited, very few historians, if any, make any reference to a protest made by the citizens of Northampton County in March, 1652. (It will be remembered that, through the influence of Colonel Obedience Robins, the name of the county was changed from Accomack County to Northampton County in 1642 and was supposedly referred to as Northampton County until the county was divided into Accomack and Northampton Counties in 1662.) Supposedly, that is, for the records covering this period in the County Clerk's office at Eastville, county seat of Northampton, refer both to Accomack County and to Northampton County. When Accomack was made one of the eight original shires she was, of course, entitled to all rights and privileges that were given to the other shires, such as membership in the House of Burgesses, participation in all matters relating to taxation, etc. For a time all these rights were recognized but when the order to send representatives to the House of Burgesses was made by the Governor in 1647 no call for such representatives was made for Northampton County. With the exception of one member in the House of Burgesses in 1651, the County had no representation in the House of Burgesses between 1647 and 1652. Despite this lack of representation a levy of forty-six pounds of tobacco had been laid on all Eastern Shoremen, and these very naturally complained. Another source of complaint was certain laws passed by the English Parliament - we need to remember that England was under the Cromwellian government at this time - especially a law prohibiting Dutch trade in 1650 and the Navigation Act of 1651, which had almost put an end to the Parliamentary Party in Northampton County. Those who raised tobacco - and everybody did - were forced to pay very heavy freight rates on this, as well as accept a much lower price for this commodity. The pocketbooks of that period were thus hit two ways, forced to pay taxes which they had had no part in making and forced to take a much lower price

for their tobacco or sell no tobacco. The result was the Northampton Protest, brought about, probably, by Colonel Scarburgh—and the Colonel hated Puritans as he did the Indians and the Dutch - and encouraged by other Royalists in the County. After various meetings at various places, a committee of six "prominent citizens" of the County was authorized to draw up a protest that would include all the grievances of the people and to act in all things for the best interests of all the people concerned. Part of this protest reads as follows: "Imprmis. Wee the Inhabitants of Northampton Countie doe complayne that from tyme to tyme (pticular yeares past) wee have been submitted & bine obedient unto the paymt of publeq Taxacons. Butt after the yeares 1647, since that tyme wee Conceive & have found that the taxes were very weightie. But in a more espetiall manner (undr favor) wee are very sensible of the Taxacon of forty sixe pounds tobacco p. poll (this present yeare). And desire that the same bee taken off the charge of the Countie; furthermore wee alledge that after 16-47, wee did understand & suppose our Countie Northampton to be disjointed & sequestered from the rest of Virginia. Therefore that Llawe wch requireth & injoyneth Taxacons from us to bee Arbitrarye & illegall; fforasmuch wee had neither summons for Ellecon of Burgesses nor voyce in their Assemblye (during the time aforesd) but only Singlur Burgess in September, Ano., 1651. Wee conceive that wee may Lawfullie ptest agt. the pceedings in the Act of Assemblie for publiq Taxacons wch have trlscon to Northmton Countie since the year 1647."

Jennings Wise calls this, "the first organized remonstrance against British Authority in the form of a protest against taxation without representation," was made by the people of Northampton County, Virginia, March 30, 1652, antedating all the others by one hundred twenty-odd years; and yet not a single historian of our country has dwelt upon the importance of this protest. Wise also calls this "a direct protest against the authority of the Commonwealth of England, which, from March 12th, to April 30th, 1652, was represented by Parliamentary Commissioners, not chosen by the people, nor any section of the people of Virginia."

And so it would seem that even in Colonial Days the rest of Virginia seemed to forget that the Eastern Shore was a part of Virginia. And further evidence that back in those early days the Eastern Shore was not considered a part of Virginia stands the fact that for a short period one had to have a passport to go from the Eastern Shore to Hampton and other parts of Virginia!

Schools And Public Schools

As stated elsewhere, James E. Mears has written almost a whole history of education on the Eastern Shore in his weekly articles in The Eastern Shore News. Mr. Mears has told in these articles the story of both the many academies and the public schools, so anything in detail relating to these would be just repetition. What this section will try to do, therefore, is primarily to remind us again of some things about our schools that have been forgotten, and perhaps in some cases, things that were not generally known, and to further emphasize some of the things connected with our public school system.

All Virginia historians emphasize three events transpiring in Virginia in 1619 - the first legislative assembly, the coming of women to the Colony, the first slaves brought to the Colony, but many of these historians overlook a fourth event that was also of importance to the Colony. This fourth event was the coming to the Colony of 100 orphan boys to be apprenticed and "to be taught by their masters some good trade." To me this event is important because it represents the beginning of elementary education in Virginia. The Virginia Company required that all those accepting these boys as apprentices teach them "some good trade." In 1643, the House of Burgesses enacted laws requiring guardians and overseers of these boys to instruct "their orphan charges in the Christian religion and in the rudiments of learning." We have no record that any of these orphan boys were brought to the Eastern Shore but we do know that from 1620 on more people were coming to the Eastern Shore, and it is very easy to believe that some of those who "emigrated" from Jamestown had some of these boys as indentured servants. If so, this could also represent the beginning of elementary education on the Eastern Shore. To digress a bit, research has developed another theory as to the "boatload of slaves" brought to the Colony by that Dutch vessel in 1619. This theory is that the twenty Negroes were not brought as slaves but were left as indentured servants by the master of the Dutch vessel. This vessel, according to this theory, had put into Jamestown for supplies but did not have sufficient money to pay for the supplies it needed. Instead of money, the Negroes were left as indentured servants to the planters who had supplied the vessel with the much-needed supplies. When

the terms of indenture expired, the Negroes, like all other indentured servants, would become free. This may be just a theory but at least serves to explain why there were free Negroes in Accomack County as indicated by wills on record in the Northampton County Court in the 1600's.

So far as the records show, education on the Eastern Shore in those early days followed the pattern of education as set up in Jamestown and the settlements that developed around Jamestown. It is always necessary, in order to understand conditions in Virginia's Colonial Period, to remember that Virginia was just a bit of England transplanted in this new country and that these early Virginians brought with them the laws, customs, beliefs, religious and otherwise, that they knew in England. The type of education practiced in England at that time was the type of education that would be developed in Virginia if and when those early settlers reached a time when they could begin to think about education. England had no plan for the education of those children whose parents were not able to educate them except to "bind these children out" under the apprenticeship system. Naturally, Virginia followed the same system. This explains the requirement by the House of Burgesses that the masters of these first apprentices in 1619 be required to teach them "some good trade." It also explains a somewhat similar law in 1643 placing upon the overseers, masters, and guardians of orphan children the responsibility of "instructing these orphans in the Christian religion and in the rudiments of learning." A somewhat more stringent law in 1705 provided that "masters be compelled to teach orphans to read and write." Heatwole, in his History of Education in Virginia, describes this as "the first legislative provision requiring reading and writing to be taught."

This general description of education in early Virginia is given merely to emphasize the fact that the same theories as to education that existed in the Jamestown Colony naturally existed on the Eastern Shore. Between 1620 and 1640, and perhaps later, there were probably not enough people or children to do anything about educating children or planning for schools of any kind. Jennings Wise says there was "a total of but fifty-one souls in 'The Eastern Shore over the Baye' in a census of 1624-5, 44 males, 7 females." Apparently there were no apprentices on the Shore at that time. There were, though, enough people to organize a church, for those early records show that Rev. Francis Bolton was on the Shore in 1623, the first minister and the first church on the Shore.

Between 1625 and 1670 the Eastern Shore showed quite an increase in population. To quote Jennings C. Wise again, the Eastern Shore had a total population of about 4,000 in 1670 and this population had spread from the lower part of Northampton county to the upper part of Accomack County. During this period, prosperity had increased, Accomack and Northampton Counties had been established; each county was operating its own court, churches were established, following the trend of population, and education was becoming a matter of concern. Following the English custom, those financially able had their governess or tutor; in other cases families on adjoining plantations had a governess or tutor in common, the schoolhouse being very often an abandoned building, the tutor very often being the minister of the local church. Except in the case of orphan children, no provision seems to have been made for the "schooling" of those children whose parents were not financially able to provide "schooling" for them. And yet, despite this generally accepted theory that education was not necessary for the children of the poor, Court records in both counties show that at various times efforts had been made to establish what we today think of as public schools but primarily intended as schools for the poor. Many of the wills probated in both counties in the late 1600's, as well as in the 1700's, show the testator making provision for the education of his children, and in a few cases for the education of poor children. For example, William Whittington, in a will probated in 1660, decreed "I give to the use of a free school, if it should go forward in Northampton, 2,000 pounds of tobacco." Other wills, as stated above, carried similar bequests but if such schools were established during this period no records were left to describe them. However, "schools for the poor," which really mark the beginning of what we know today as public schools, were established by philanthropists in various parts of the Virginia Colony, the first of these being the Symms-Eaton School in Hampton in 1634 and 1659. Practically all writers on education in Virginia describe this school and its beginning in detail, but these same writers seem never to have heard of a much larger bequest made for the purpose of establishing a school or schools "for the better Learning and Education of poor Children, whose parents are esteemed unable to give them Learning, Liveing in the upper parts of Accomack County in Virginia, that is to say, from Guilford Creeke directly to the sea side and Likewise from Guilford Creek to the dividing line parting Virginia and Maryland as followeth." This was a bequest left by Samuel Sandford in a will dated 1710, pro-

bated in London, England, and probated in the Accomack County Court in 1712. Sandford was appointed High Sheriff of Accomack County in 1693 and through patents and purchases became a very extensive landowner. His will provided that the income from 3,420 acres of land should be used as described above and authorized and "impowered" "such person or persons who are justices of the peace Church Wardens or of the Vestry for their time being" to carry out the instructions given in his will. Thus came into being the Free School Land, the Sandford's Charity Fund, later the Sandford Fund. A school or schools must have been established, for the records of the Upper Parish from time to time show reports on this fund until the public school system in Virginia was established in 1870. Since the public school system was supposed to do what the Sandford Fund had been doing for some hundred and sixty years the Fund as such was no longer needed and in 1873 the Court ordered a survey of the land included in Sandford's bequest and this land ordered to be sold. Proceeds from this sale were divided among Metompkin, Atlantic, and Islands Districts, and paid over to the School Boards of these districts. The School Boards, in turn, had to pay interest on the amount of money each Board received so this amounted to each Board paying itself for money used for the operation of its own schools. For a number of years Mr. John Hopkins, of Parksley, was Commissioner of this Fund and made an annual report to the County School Board of Accomack County, though it all was largely a paper transaction. After the death of Mr. Hopkins, Mr. John D. Grant, Jr., Clerk of Accomack County Court, was appointed Commissioner of the Fund, but since it was mainly a paper transaction the Sandford Fund soon disappeared, though it still appears in the records of the County School Board.

Another bequest to education of poor boys was made in the will of Charles S. Piper under date of "27th day of March 1818." In this will Charles Piper directed as follows: "I give and bequeath subject to the provisions in the first clause of my will, the lot of land in Horntown where I formerly lived containing by estimation seventy-five acres, in trust, for the purpose of educating poor children who may be orphans, living and residing within five miles of Horntown and I hereby constitute the overseers of the poor elected for the upper district, for the time being, Trustees, to build upon repair and rent the aforesaid premises and apply the rents and profits thereof annually as they may be received to the purpose above mentioned, and my will is that they the said Trustees, who shall act as such receive six per cent on

the profits of said land annually for their trouble." This will was probated 27th day of July 1818. Unfortunately, there is very little in the records as to the operation of such a school as Mr. Piper evidently had in mind. There is one record that the overseers of the poor decreed that no boy could stay in the school longer than two years and that on leaving each boy was to be given certain articles of wearing apparel. As in the case of the Sandford grant, when the public school system was established there was no longer a need for this particular type of school and the Trustees probably disposed of the property involved.

Another interesting feature in Mr. Piper's will was his disposition of his slaves. His will decreed that two of his negroes, naming these, were to be free at his death and eight others were to be sold under conditions that they be free when they reach the age of thirty-five and "not to be sold off the eastern Shore."

Margaret Academy

Another evidence of the interest of people on the Eastern Shore in education is shown in the inauguration and operation of Margaret Academy. Margaret Academy was a private institution, financed in the beginning by interested people in Accomack and Northampton Counties, and operated as a private institution. The Academy was chartered in 1756, the charter providing that seven trustees come from Accomack County and five from Northampton County. The original trustees were: George Corbin, Isaac Avery, Thomas Evans, Littleton Savage, Levin Joynes, George Parker, John Harmanson, Edward Ker, John Cropper, Jr., all men of prominence in their time and most of them having descendants in the two counties today who also take a prominent part in the civic, economic, and religious life of the two counties. Just what prompted the organization of Margaret Academy we of course have no record except that it indicated an interest on the part of the leaders of the two counties in education for their own sons first, and then in the interest of the sons of other people. We can also draw another conclusion, and that is the fact that at least the wealthier people on the Eastern Shore were in rather close contact with Philadelphia and knew what was going on in that part of the world. What we think of as an academy now was somewhat new when Margaret Academy was chartered and those who were interested in organizing an academy were following what Benjamin Franklin had done in Philadelphia in 1757. There were schools for boys in all the New England colonies and also in Philadelphia but all of these were based on the Latin Grammar School organized in Boston in 1635, in which Latin, Greek, and mathematics were the subjects usually taught. A knowledge of Latin and Greek was considered essential for the education of a gentleman and, while we may not like to admit it, only the sons of gentlemen were supposed to be educated. Franklin, as usual far ahead of his own generation, felt that life in his time needed to give some attention to the needs of the time and not limit itself to a study of the classics of the ancient world. On the basis of this thinking he founded an Academy in Philadelphia, the curriculum to include the classics but also to include geography, history, science. Years after, the academy became the University of Pennsylvania. It is quite interesting to note

that less than thirty years after Franklin had developed his academy, a similar academy was started here on the Eastern Shore to be known as Margaret Academy. Similar academies developed throughout Virginia, many of them becoming, as did Franklin's academy in Philadelphia, colleges and universities. For instance, Prince Edward Academy, founded in 1776, later became Hampden-Sydney College. Liberty Hall Academy (1776) later became Washington and Lee University. Albemarle Academy (1803) though apparently never functioned, became Central Academy, then Central College, and was taken over by Thomas Jefferson when he established the University of Virginia, to name just a few of the academies that later developed into institutions of higher learning.

To go back to Margaret Academy - the Academy had to be built and operated by private funds and these funds apparently were somewhat slow coming in. The site selected was near the place we know now as Bobtown, probably because Nathan Addison granted certain acres of land "for the use of the said Academy and their successors forever." Theories vary as to the source of the name but it is generally accepted that the name of Margaret Academy was chosen in honor of Margaret Pettit, the wife of Colonel Cropper, who probably was one of the heavier contributors to the new Academy. Additional land was purchased as funds became available, a building or buildings had to be constructed, and altogether, funds came in so slowly that it was not until 1806 that the Academy was formally opened. For a number of years after the Academy was chartered, the minutes of the Trustees of the Academy show that the treasurer was authorized to make every effort to collect from those who had subscribed funds for the Academy, so collecting from promised subscriptions seems to have taken as much effort some one hundred and fifty years ago as it does today.

A resolution authorizing the construction of a building for a school was adopted under date of 14th day of May, 1788. This followed the adoption of a resolution expressing thanks to Nathan Anderson for five acres of land and to Hilary Sturgis and John Upshur for offer of a like quantity of land. The Trustees also agreed at this same meeting to contract with Nathan Addison for purchase of ten additional acres of land adjoining the five acres that Addison had donated to the Margaret Academy. Funds for the construction of the building seem to have come in very slowly for it was not until May, 1807, that the Trustees ordered that the "school shall commence on the 8th day of June

next and that a public notice be given in the Norfolk Ledger." At this same meeting a contract was entered into between the Trustees and Ichabod Brewster and Ebenezer Gray to teach at the Margaret Academy at a salary of seven hundred dollars per year "and the further sum of one hundred dollars in case the number of students 25 dollars per annum for those who are taught the Latin & Greek and the mathematicks and geography and 20 dollars for those taught English only would justify it." Board was placed at $85.00 per annum, rent and fuel 5 dollars per annum, of which 25 dollars was to be paid in advance. It is to be regretted that no records have been found giving the names of the students who registered when the Margaret Academy opened on Monday, June 8, 1807. The Trustees had adopted a course of study, listing the texts to be used in "the Latin and the Greek" but no reference to "the geography, the mathematicks and the English." Apparently these were left to the instructors. Other regulations adopted by the Trustees: "Religious worship before breakfast each morning, classes from one hour after breakfast until 12 o'clock each day, dinner served as nearly as may be at one o'clock each day, and at two o'clock school hours shall again commence & proceed untill the afternoon lessons and duties shall all be performed & untill such as the teachers shall see proper to dismiss the students from school." And this regulation: "No student shall bring or cause to be brought into the Academy or on any occasion keep in his room any spirituous liquors, nor shall any student play at any unlawful game." Some academies and colleges have this last regulation today so human nature has not changed a bit.

For some years the Trustees operated the Academy, employing the teachers, appointing a steward to collect tuition fees and pay the teachers. For the first five years no teacher stayed longer than one year - one can easily see what it would mean to a young man from New England to come to an out-of-the-way place like Bobtown and try to teach the young America of that day "how to shoot." After a few years of this the Trustees rented the Academy for a period of years, usually five. The man renting the Academy had to pay rent for the use of the building and was charged a certain amount for firewood. The Academy seems to have operated under the rental plan for a number of years and during this period the minutes of the Trustees show very little about the operation of the Academy. The Trustees requested aid from the General Assembly of Virginia and contributions of $100 were made by the Assembly at various times,

part of these appropriations coming from the sale of the Glebe lands after 1810. Unfortunately, the minutes of the Trustees do not show when the Academy was closed but we know the Academy was operating in the late fifties and perhaps in the early sixties. I have frequently heard my father, who then lived at the Moore Farm (Vaux Hall) tell how he and his two brothers rode to school at the Margaret Academy "on the fills" and no one knows today what "fills" are. "Fills" were just the wheels and axle of the carts that were a very essential part of every farm and that today are so rare that they are almost a curiosity. Of course there must be many people in Accomack and Northampton Counties who have records that their great-grandfather or their grandfather attended school at Margaret Academy but nothing in the minutes of the Trustees gives any indication of the enrollment in any session. At least tradition has a record of one student, Henry A. Wise, later Governor of Virginia. The story is that at each meal a student was called on to ask the blessing and Henry Wise, being called on one day, responded with this:

"Lord from above
Send down his love
As thick as thorn and thistles
Upon the back
Of Madam Hack
For giving us no better victuals."

The Academy was probably operating in 1861 when Colonel Charles Smith, officer, made requisition on the Trustees of the Academy for use of the Academy for the Federal Army. This requisition was promptly refused by the Trustees but the Army took over the Academy despite this refusal and when the War Between the States ended the Academy was in such a sad state of repair that it was very difficult for it to be restored to its original purpose. The Academy may have been operated on a rental basis after the close of the War Between the States but if so, there is apparently no record of its operation. At various times during this period the minutes of the Trustees show that certain items of woodsland had been sold but in 1891 the Trustees seriously considered the sale of the entire property. Authority was given to sell the property as of June 11, 1892, and the same was completed as of October 27, 1892.

Authority to locate the Academy on a new site was given in July, 1893. Proposals for the location of the new Academy, together with offers of land, came from various towns in both counties but a majority of the Trustees voted to locate the new

Academy at Onancock, and on July 22, 1893, the Trustees purchased College Place, the site of the former Atlantic Female College, as the site of the new Margaret Academy. This Academy was operated on a rental basis and continued as such until the growth and development of the public schools and the later development of the high school throughout Virginia. The acceptance by the people generally of these high schools almost automatically called for the closing of many private schools and academies and the high school came into being in all parts of Virginia. Of course Accomack and Northampton Counties were no exception. The Trustees of Margaret Academy sold the Margaret Academy property to the Onancock School Board and in 1921 the present Onancock High School was built.

The Public Schools

As stated previously, this is not a history of anything, so it will not be a history of the public schools in Accomack and Northampton Counties. All that will be attempted will be to show something of the beginning of the public school system, the difficulties in administering the system, the difficulty in getting the local authorities to establish funds for the operation of the public school system, and the final acceptance of the public school system as a necessary part of the civic life of the people of the two counties. However, one is forced to admit that even after many years of successful accomplishment, and after having made a wonderful contribution to the economic development of the two counties as a whole—after all this there are some who do not feel that education for the boys and girls of today is any more necessary than it was sixty to seventy-five years ago, despite the fact that "tempus is fugiting."

While the General Assembly of Virginia had at various times, as previously stated, enacted laws giving "permissive authority" for the establishment of schools "for all the children of all the people" these laws were seldom acted upon by the various local divisions throughout the State. Generally the cities were the first to act, and many of the cities of Virginia had a public school system before the public school system as we know it today came into existence. Probably no man had as great influence over the people of Virginia in his day as did Thomas Jefferson, and while he fought strenuously for the adoption of a system under which all children in Virginia could be given at least an elementary education, he never succeeded in accomplishing this. He did, of course, get his University of Virginia, but North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia each had its State University before the University of Virginia was established in 1818. One of Jefferson's ideas of education was "to let the people of Virginia know what is going on in the world and to keep their part of it going right" and this theory of education, as were many of Jefferson's theories, is especially applicable today. Parenthetically, the Democratic Party of today proudly proclaims Jefferson as its founder and patron saint but it is more than doubtful if Jefferson would acknowledge or even recognize some of the interpretations placed upon his theories and his efforts to help the

people of Virginia "keep their part of the world going right."

The public school system came into Virginia with the famous, or infamous, Underwood Convention of 1869. This Convention has been said to have "been fearfully and wonderfully made." Composed of 105 members, many of these members came to Virginia with the "carpet baggers and scalawaggers;" twenty-seven of them were from other States, and these included one each from England, Ireland, Scotland, Nova Scotia, and Canada. A native of New York was elected president of the Convention and various other offices were filled by the appointment of people outside of the State or by Negroes living in Virginia.

One of the first resolutions adopted reads as follows: "To provide by law, at its first session under this Constitution, a uniform system of public free schools and for its gradual equal and full introduction into all the counties of the state by the year 1876, and as much sooner as possible."

Provision was made in the Constitution for the establishment of a "chief state school officer known as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, elected by the General Assembly, and a State Board of Education composed of the Governor, the Attorney General, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction." This Board was given authority to appoint and remove all county superintendents of schools, to manage the school fund, and in general, to supervise generally the schools that were to be established throughout the State.

Support for the schools was provided for through the interest from the Literary Fund, which had been established in 1810, all capitation taxes, a state property tax of not less than one mill nor more than five mills on the dollar, this fund to be divided on the basis of the number of children in the various school districts between the ages of five and twenty-one years. Not a very substantial tax but at least a beginning. Each county or district within the county was given the authority to levy a school tax of not more than five mills on the dollar and also a capitation tax of not exceeding fifty cents per annum. Thus the foundation for a public school system in Virginia was laid and with the election by the General Assembly of Virginia of Dr. William H. Ruffner as the first State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the public school system came into being.

The first duty of the new Superintendent of Public Instruction was the appointment of superintendents of schools for the various counties and the division of the counties into school

districts. Generally, the magisterial districts, which must have already been in existence, were also named school districts, and each district was to have its own district school board, these local school boards having the duty and the responsibility for organizing the schools to be established in their respective districts. Fortunately, the Accomack County records carry the names of the members of the district school boards established under the new law in 1870, these members being as follows:

Pungoteague District - Eugene J. W. Read, James W. Edmonds, George T. West.

Lee District - John W. Gillet, Edward B. Waples, Thomas H. James.

Metompkin District - John Wise, Levi J. Northam, Parker W. Parks.

Atlantic District - William D. Cropper, James A. Hall, Rev. Montcalm Oldham.

Islands District - John W. Bunting, Charles H. Smith, J. J. English.

The first superintendent for Accomack County was Mr. James C. Weaver, Saxis - then known as Sykes Island. The first superintendent for Northampton County was Mr. John Wilkins.

To these two superintendents and the district school boards fell the arduous duty of putting into working order something the people generally did not want and something in which they were very little interested. Those families that were financially able were already sending their children to private schools, probably at a tuition of $1.50 to $2.00 per month; those who were not sending their children to school may not have been financially able to do this or may not have cared whether or not their children went to school. At any rate, the "haves" did not see why they had any responsibility for the "have nots" so they were not at all interested in paying the small tax set up by the State for the support of the public schools as they came into being. Such schools were just schools "for the poor" and even today none of us like to be classed with "the poor folk." Generally, all through Virginia, as public schools were established they were labeled "pauper schools" and "we better-classed folk just did not want to be classed as paupers."

This was perhaps the greatest objection that had to be overcome and something of this is shown in the reports of the two superintendents to the State Superintendent of Public Instruc-

tion at the close of the session 1870-1871. Accomac - Steady improvement among the masses in favor of the schools. We sadly need more schoolhouses. This is the greatest drawback and affords the most effective weapon to our foes. Northampton - Public sentiment is gradually becoming more favorable.

Gradually the opposition in Accomack and Northampton Counties disappeared but it was gradual. Schools sprang up here, there, and almost everywhere, in any kind of building that could be found, and wherever the local school boards felt that a school could be sustained. Then of course there was the question of teachers. Most of these early teachers were women; young ladies who had attended some of the numerous academies on the Shore and would be willing to "teach school." Unfortunately, we know the names of very few of these early teachers. The records of the local school boards of those early days "just became lost," or were not considered important enough to keep, and when the county school unit under which the schools of today operate came into existence in 1924, very few of the district school records were turned over to the County School Board. Ninety years is a long time as years go but much of the success of Virginia's public school system today, certainly in Accomack and Northampton Counties, may be traced back to the devoted work of those teachers who, with practically nothing to teach with, not much of a place to teach in, taught everything "from a,b,c's on up," and with only boys and girls to work on, laid the foundation on which the school system in Accomack and Northampton Counties rests today.

Superintendents in Accomack County during this period of ninety years have been, James C. Weaver, Dr. John E. Mapp, Goodwyn G. Joynes, Sr., J. Milton Shue, Henry A. Wise, Roscoe M. Doub, and the present incumbent, Royce W. Chesser.

Superintendents of Public Schools in Northampton County since 1870 have been John Wilkins, Southey Wilkins, Luther Nottingham, Theron Bell, Preston Scott, E. G. Tankard, D. W. Peters, George J. Oliver, Ashby DeHaven, and the present incumbent, W. F. Lawson.

Each of these superintendents had his own particular problems but we comment on the problems of only one superintendent here. During Mr. Joynes's administration, the first consolidation of schools anywhere in Virginia was put into practice in Accomack County. As stated above, schools came into being

almost anywhere, especially as the opposition to the public schools diminished and people were requesting schools in their various communities. Much of this opposition had "died out" during Dr. Mapp's administration and when Mr. Joynes became superintendent, the school system had long been established. Then it was found that we had too many schools, many of them within two or three miles of each other, and very few of them with more than one teacher who had "to teach everything." Mr. Joynes proposed, and the Atlantic District School Board agreed with him, to bring the pupils from some of the small schools near the Temperanceville school to this school, and consolidation of schools throughout Virginia came into being. The first school bus was an open wagon, with provision for a canvas cover if the weather was too bad. Later, similar changes were made in the Leemont and Parksley areas, and by this time consolidation was fairly well established. (Some of us still remember, however, the difficulties that had to be overcome and the "cussing out" that school officials in both counties received in later and much-needed consolidations in the two counties.)

We are frequently told that history repeats itself. In those early years of the public school system emphasis was very naturally placed on the development of the elementary school. As this type of school developed, school authorities, as well as many patrons of the schools, began to realize that something else was needed besides the ability to "read, write, and figger" and that training beyond these abilities was also the duty and obligation of the public school system, and so began the high school movement. With the famous May Campaign in Virginia in 1900 and 1903 the high school program became a very definite part of the school program throughout Virginia; and high schools, the successors of many of the academies, became a necessity in all school divisions in Virginia. High schools developed here, there, and everywhere until again we had history repeating itself and we found we had too many high schools. Again consolidation became the order of the day. Then, too, Mr. Joynes's idea of transportation became the order of the day. School buses came into being, "terrible for children to have to walk a half mile or a mile to school," and consolidation of the high schools, many of these too small to be even called high schools, were combined into larger and more competent places of training for the boys and girls of Virginia and especially the boys and girls of Accomack and Northampton Counties. And today, in these two counties, under the leadership of two very capable super-

intendents and equally capable teachers, aided and guided by interested and capable supervisors, the boys and girls in Accomack and Northampton Counties in both white and Negro schools are doing a quality of work that will more than measure up with similar work done in any schools in other parts of Virginia.

To go back to those early schools. They were district schools, not actually county schools, and each district appointed its own teachers, established the tax rate, set the salaries of teachers, and determined the length of the session. Schools for both whites and Negroes were open from five to eight months, with the Negro schools usually one month behind the white schools. The patrons furnished the wood for fuel, the big boys cut the wood and looked after the fires, and the girls took care of the school buildings. When the regular session ended, most communities kept the schools going another month, or more, each patron paying one dollar a month "to make up the teacher's salary." And the teacher's salary could not have been in terms of salaries today. In fact, teachers' salaries were "not much" twenty-five or more years later, as I happen to know. My first teaching was the session 1896-1897. I had finished my junior year at the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College, soon changed to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and money gave out with the end of this sophomore year. To get money to continue I taught at my home in Craddockville during the session 1896-1897, with the munificent salary of $27.50 per month. School closed that session on March 16 and on March 17 I started back to Blacksburg and college. Between then and the close of the session I took fourteen examinations and made up all my junior work except laboratory work, stayed at college during the summer to make up this work, and was a full-fledged senior when the session of 1897-1898 opened. Even in 1900 salaries had not improved very greatly, thirty to forty dollars per month being considered a "good salary." Fortunately we have come a "far piece" since 1900 but in sixty years the two counties should have done some traveling.

In 1924 the General Assembly established the county unit which meant that school districts, so far as operation was concerned, were abolished, and the county school board became the controlling factor in the operation of schools. This meant that all schools in a county were on the same basis so far as length of term and teachers' salaries were concerned. A county levy for school purposes was established and district levies were to be used only for payment of district indebtedness or for the purpose

of building new schools in the districts. School boards were also given the authority to appoint division superintendents of schools, this authority heretofore belonging to the State Board of Education. Even at this time many elementary schools throughout the State, and especially in Accomack and Northampton Counties, were in session only eight months while high schools were open for a session of nine months. Later the General Assembly decreed that all schools, in order to receive State aid, must be in session nine months. In justice to the County School Board of Accomack County, it should be stated that this Board had made this change a year or so before the General Assembly made a session of nine months the law of the State.

In those long-ago school days, the school day was from nine to four, with little recess in the morning, big recess from twelve to one, and little recess in the afternoon. Of course pupils knew nothing about "physical activity," or "planned activities," or "recreational activities" but nevertheless there was always a great deal of activity going on at all recesses. Boys played "one old cat," "two old cat," or "three old cat," as well as regular baseball, though your ball was probably a ball of string covered over with something, and the bat was a stick, with one end smoothed off for a hand hold. Girls made "shatter" houses, (and who knows now what shatters are?), played singing games - which are supposed to be something new but are not - or, somewhat in the manner of today, watched the boys play "old cat" or baseball. You brought your lunch in a tin pail and, if you had not eaten it all at little recess in the morning, gathered in groups to eat lunch at the noon recess. If the weather was too bad to be outdoors the teacher or teachers were probably "worn to a frazzle" by the time the noon recess was over.

Mrs. Mary Nottingham Smith

No reference to the educational development of Accomack County would be complete without some reference to the work of Mrs. Mary Nottingham Smith in the Negro schools. Mrs. Smith was the first Jeanes teacher or Jeanes supervisor, as these teachers were later called, in Accomack County and one of the first in Virginia. By way of explanation, the Jeanes teachers were made possible by the Anna T. Jeanes Foundation, a foundation established in 1908 by Miss Anna T. Jeanes, a Quaker, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for the benefit of Negro rural schools. Plans to administer the fund, $1,000,000.00, according to a booklet entitled American Foundations for Social Welfare as follows: (1) To cooperate with the regular school authorities in the employment of county supervising teachers; (2) to get the cooperation of the people themselves and (3) to improve the effectiveness of the school and widen its neighborhood influence by introducing industrial features. (J. L. Blair Buck, the Development of Public Schools in Virginia.) The first of these Jeanes teachers to be appointed was Miss Virginia Randolph, Henrico County, Virginia, and from this small beginning, according to Dr. Buck, what we know as supervision in our public schools has spread to all parts of the world. Mrs. Smith's appointment as Jeanes supervisor came not many years after the appointment of Miss Randolph. Mrs. Smith was a two-year graduate of Hampton Institute, received a Normal Professional Certificate, and was teaching in Northampton County when she was recommended by the Hampton Institute, Virginia, for appointment as Jeanes Supervisor in Louisiana. During Mr. Joynes's administration, Mrs. Smith was appointed Jeanes supervisor for Accomack Negro schools and continued in this capacity until her death on December 30, 1951. Through summer courses at Hampton Institute Mrs. Smith received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampton Institute some years before her death and no newly-fledged graduate could have been more pleased than Mrs. Smith when she came to the School Board Office to tell us that she had met all requirements for graduation and would receive her degree at Commencement - "not so proud for myself but just to show the teachers what they can do and to feel that I am a little better fitted to help the teachers." And

Mrs. Smith helped the teachers, the pupils, and the communities, and it was most fitting that the Negro county high school, established in 1932, should have been named the Mary N. Smith High School, and that high school now stands as a monument to a teacher and supervisor who had much to do with the development of education in Accomack County.

When Mr. Joynes appointed Mrs. Smith as Jeanes supervisor in Accomack County in 1920 there were not a dozen supervisors either white or Negro in Virginia. Today practically every school division in the State has one or more elementary supervisors, guidance counsellors, directors of instruction, or supervisors in various capacities, all testifying to the fact that, as in any other business - and schools are big business - supervision, direction, guidance, are necessary, and with the thousand and one duties now imposed upon the school superintendent, it is simply not possible for the superintendent to keep all the machinery oiled and running smoothly. Fortunately, teachers themselves are now the first of these to acknowledge the need for the help that the supervisory officials give them.

And of training teachers, it is interesting to note that the first college established by Virginia for the training of teachers was a Negro college, the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute for Colored Persons, established in 1883 by action of the General Assembly, now Virginia State College. The State Female Normal School at Farmville, now Longwood College, was established in 1884.

School Games Of The Long Ago

Some of those singing games are heard today but many of these have "gone with the years." The girls always liked to play

"Draw a bucket of water
For the lady's daughter;
One berry bush, and two berry bush,
And pray, little sister,
Come under."

"Drop handkerchief" was always popular, the song for this being

"Sent a letter to my love
And on the way I lost it, I lost it;
Sent a letter to my love and on the way I lost it."

Then

"Here we go round the mulberry bush, the mulberry bush,
Here we go round the mulberry bush
So early in the morning."

These, as well as others, were used only by the little girls. Big girls and big boys had other songs that generally were used only on rainy days. The most popular of these games was "Steal Partners" to "Bounce Around, Tu Ri Lu La".

"Get your partners,
Tu ri lu;
Get your partners,
Tu ri lu;
Get your partners,
Tu ri lu,
Tu ri lu, my darling.

"Lost my partner,
Tu ri lu;
Lost my partner,
Tu ri lu;
Lost my partner,
Tu ri lu,
Tu ri lu, my darling.

"I'll get another one,
Tu ri lu;

I'll get another one,
Tu ri lu;
I'll get another one,
Tu ri lu,
Tu ri lu, my darling.

"Better than the other one,
Tu ri lu;
Better than the other one,
Tu ri lu;
Better than the other one,
Tu ri lu,
Tu ri lu, my darling."

The tune for this is known now as "Skip to my Lou" but it was "Bounce around, tu ri lu la" years ago. Incidentally, two of the seven cardinal sins in those long ago days were dancing and card playing. Young ladies and gentlemen of school age were just not supposed to dance but "Bounce around, tu ri lu la" was just about as close to dancing as one could get. And of dancing generally I remember that in 1888 or 1889 my father added a room to our house. Before moving furniture into this new room, Father thought it would be most appropriate to celebrate the occasion of the new room by having a dance. Mother did not think too much of it but she went along and we had the dance, fiddles and all. The result was that the Wise family was almost put out of church.

Other singing games for the big boys and girls were "King William was King James's Son," "My True Love Has Gone to the War," both marching and acting songs, and both very popular on rainy days.

Where did children of those days get these songs? "Just handed down." Many of the singing games, as well as many of the old songs heard on the Eastern Shore, can be traced back to England, back to Colonial days, and had been sung in the homes of our ancestors and "just handed down" from generation to generation. Many of them we have lost, many of them have been changed or added to through the years as most things are changed in the telling. For example, one of the most widely known English ballads is "Barbara Allen." Fifty or more versions of this ballad have been found in Virginia, one of these found in Accomack County. I learned it from "Uncle Bill Watson" who for years was the "general factotum" on my father's farm.

"Twas in the merry month of May,
The green buds they were swelling;
Young Jimmie on his death bed lay
For the sake of Barbary Ellen."

But Barbara scorned Jimmie and the last verse of the ballad has Barbara telling her mother

"O Mother, O Mother go make my bed
And make it soft and narrow,
My true love died for me today,
I'll die for him tomorrow."

Those old ballads, brought over from England, sung by our Colonial ancestors, handed down from generation to generation and very often sung for the children of the last century by the colored folk on the place, were a very definite part of English literature and later had their place in American literature. Most of these are lost now or perhaps they were replaced by the American ballads that came into being as American life developed and Virginians and others had stories of their own to tell and proceeded to tell these stories. Of course a ballad is only a story told in song and through many generations every country has had these ballads, the ballad singers in England, the troubadours in France, the Meistersingers in Germany, to name just a few of these. While interested in all ballads of Virginia and other States, I have always been especially interested in those that I never found or heard elsewhere than on the Eastern Shore. Many games that children play today here on the Shore are games that children in many parts of our country are playing, showing that somewhere and sometime in the days of long ago these same games were being played and "have just been handed down." However, two of the singing games that were very popular in my school days I have never heard except on the Eastern Shore: one, "King William was King James's Son," and another "My True Love Has Gone to the War." One ballad I have never heard elsewhere, and purely American, is "Pat Malone," and "Pat Malone" is worth quoting.

"Times were hard in Irish town,
Everything was going down,
And Pat Malone was pushed for ready cash;
He for life insurance spent
All his money, to a cent,
And all of his affairs had gone to smash.

"Then his wife spoke up and said,
'Now, dear Pat, if you were dead,
That twenty thousand dollars we could take';
And so Pat lay down and tried
To make out that he had died
Until he smelled the whiskey at the wake.

"Then Pat Malone forgot that he was dead,
And called out from his place upon the bed:
'If the corpse he isn't in it
He will not be dead a minute,
You'll have to make me drunk to keep me dead.'

"So they gave the corpse a sup,
Afterwards they filled him up,
And laid him out again upon the bed.
When the morning broke so gray
Everybody felt so gay
They all forgot he only played off dead.

"So the funeral started out
On the cemetery route,
The neighbors tried the widow to console,
Till they got her to the base
Of Malone's last resting place
And gently lowered Patrick in the hole.

"Then Pat Malone forgot that he was dead!
As the clods began to drop
He broke off the coffin top
And from the cemetery quickly fled.
He came nearly going under,
'Twas a lucky thing, by thunder,
That Pat Malone forgot that he was dead."

Then there is "Kitty Wells," an old song that I have found few people off the Shore know (and now no one on the Shore knows "Kitty Wells").

"You ask what makes this darkey weep
While others seem so glad and gay;
What makes the tears run down my cheeks
From early morn till close of day."

Then in contrast
"Dinkum, dankum, darkies,
Don't you hear dem bells

Ringing for dem boarders
At the United States hotel?"

Then another founded in fact because there was a United States Ship "Huron."

"'Twas a dark and stormy evening
When orders came to sail;
The waves ran high, the breakers
roared,
The wind did shriek and rave;
But by the captain's orders
The anchor quick was weighed
And out, out, out to sea they went
To meet a watery grave.

"Then toll the bells
For the loss of the Huron's crew;
We weep, we mourn, the sad, sad fate
Of the noble boys in blue."

Our Negro spirituals are a very definite part of our musical history and the pathetic thing about these spirituals today is that many of the so-called modern Negroes do not want to own these. Marian Anderson, Mahalia Jackson, as well as others, have made a wonderful contribution to their race and to the musical life of our country by keeping these spirituals alive. There is real music, pathos, philosophy, and real worship in many of these spirituals, and what more could one ask for in a song? "Everybody talkin' about Heaven ain't a-goin' there" applies to white folk as well as to Negroes; this country of ours would like nothing better just now than to be able to sing and mean "I ain't goin' to study war no more"; and one song that the Negro teachers in Accomack County always sang when they started on a particular project - "When He calls us we will answer" - which is probably what a lot of us do not do when the Lord calls.

Most of the Negro spirituals are known throughout the South but I recall at least three that I have never heard except here on the Eastern Shore. These, and probably others, I learned from the colored folk on the place and I have always felt indebted to them for these songs, as well as for other things they did for the boys and girls who were growing up when I did.

The Eastern Shore folk were the only folk to "Put John on the Island" so far as I know.

"They put John on the island when he come,
They put John on the island when he come;
They put John on the island, put John on the island,
They put John on the island when he come.

"They put him there to starve him, etc.

"They could not starve John, etc.

"The angels came and fed him," etc.

Then there was "Mary Lee" —

"Mary Lee, Lee, Lee,
Mary Lee, Lee, Lee,
And we'll all shout together
Mary Lee."

And typical of slavery days when there were patrols here and there:

"Run, Nigger, run,
Patrol'l get you;
Run, Nigger, run,
It's almost day;
You eat my meat,
You drink my tea,
You walk about town
And you talk about me.
"Run Nigger, run,
Patrol'l get you;
Run, Nigger, run,
It's almost day."

Another old song I have heard only on the Eastern Shore is "Reuben and Rachel" though this certainly should be known in some sections of the South.

"Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinking
What a great world this would be
If the men were all transported
Far beyond the Northern Sea."
Chorus:
"Tu ra lula lu,
Tu ra lula,
Tu ra lula lu
Tu ra lu -
If the men were all transported
Far beyond the Northern Sea."

Of the songs of the South we yield to no one in our love for "Dixie" but how many of us can sing more than "Look away, look away, Dixie land"?

"In Dixie land where I was born in
Early on one frosty morning,
Look away, look away, look away, Dixie land.

"Then I wish I was in Dixie, Hooray, Hooray!
In Dixie land I'll take my stand
To live and die in Dixie,
Away, away, away, down South in Dixie.

"Ole Mistis married Will the weaver,
William was a gay deceiver,
Look away, look away, look away, Dixie land.
But when he put his arms around her
She smiled as fierce as a forty-pounder,
Look away, look away, look away, Dixie land.

"There's buckwheat cakes and Injun batter
Makes you fat and a little bit fatter,
Look away, Dixie land.

"Then hoe it down and scratch your grabble,
To Dixie land I'm bound to travel,
Look away, look away, look away, Dixie land."

And a companion song to "Dixie" that we have practically lost:

"I'm goin' back to Dixie,
I'm goin' back to Dixie,
I'm goin' where the cotton blossoms grow;
I hear those voices callin',
I see those sad tears fallin',
My heart turns back to Dixie
And I must go.

"I've worked along the river,
I've worked in fields of cotton;
An' those that once worked with me
Have long since been forgotten;
But I hear those voices callin',
I see those sad tears fallin',
My heart turns back to Dixie
And I must go."

And this closing thought about the songs we used to sing:

"What fuel can so make the heart of memory glow
As listening to the songs we sang long, long ago?"

Names And Place Names

Names are always interesting, of course, and we frequently find ourselves wondering how this name or that name originated. Family names on the Eastern Shore are primarily English names indicating our English ancestry (to which most of us "point with pride"). A few places carry the names of persons or places in England; Northampton County, for instance, is generally supposed to have been so named by Colonel Obedience Robins, after his home county of Northamptonshire. Jennings Wise, however, thinks Colonel Robins used the name Northampton in honor of and in memory of the Earl of Northampton, devoted royalist who was at the head of the troops of Charles I and who lost his life in defense of his King. Many of the old homes on the Shore bear the names of home places in England from which the settlers came and these names are a part of our history and our heritage.

Generally, it is very easy to distinguish the old towns or villages on the Shore from the new or younger places. Practically all the old places bear Indian names; the places that came into existence later were named for people or for various other reasons.

There are at least two exceptions to this generality that many of the old towns bear Indian names. These two exceptions, Accomac and Wachapreague, are both old towns but they did not originally bear the names they now have. Accomac was originally Drummondtown, changed to Accomac in the eighteen-eighties. A few of the older people in the County still talk of going to Drummondtown instead of going to Accomac and the Methodist Church in Accomac is the Drummondown Methodist Church. The Baptist Church in Accomac is still the Drummondtown Baptist Church. Wachapreague was originally known as Powellton, the change to Wachapreague being made also in the eighteen-eighties, and the Presbyterian Church in Wachapreague is known today as the Powellton Presbyterian Church.

Wachapreague was the name of an Indian princess, presumably the daughter of Queen Nandua, so it was most fitting that the name of the Indian princess should be kept in memory on the seaside just as the name of Queen Nandua is kept in

memory on the bayside. To me Nandua is the prettiest of all our Indian names just as Occahonnock is the prettiest of all our creeks. Naturally Queen Nandua's site of government was on Nandua Creek, supposedly on the site we know now as Cedar View.

Other Indian names are so well known that no discussion of these is necessary.

Now for other names in the two counties on a "hit or miss" basis. It is quite appropriate that Northampton should have its Oyster just as Accomack has its Clam. Cheriton was once known as Sunnyside, probably to balance the Shadyside we now know on Highway 13. Then there is The Forks in Northampton, near Eastville, and The Forks in Accomack, near Onancock. And of Eastville, in Colonial times it was known as The Horns. One of the earliest churches in upper Accomack was the Chincoteague Church, just east of New Church on the old road to Chincoteague. Later another church was built in the town of what is now New Church and constant reference to the "new church" naturally led to the name New Church. Temperanceville is generally supposed to have been obtained through some temperance movement but the records show that the village was located on land owned by one Mr. Temperance. Not far from Temperanceville is Horntown, and we are still asking whence the name derived. To offset Accomack's Horntown, Northampton has its Birds Nest. Then there is Bullbeggar, Belinda, and Miona, to say nothing of Skin Point. Then Silva in upper Accomack is an endearing name. Just to show its impartiality, Northampton has both its Seaview and its Bayview.

When Baltimore discovered that the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland was a good place with which to do business, various steamboat lines were established to bring the Eastern Shore in closer contact with Baltimore. Landing places for the boats had to be established and every creek on the Bayside had one or more of these wharves. Occahonnock Creek had five wharves, all bearing the names of the men who built these wharves and who usually had a store at the wharf. The boat serving the Pungoteague Creek area and the Occahonnock Creek area "tied up" for the night at Rue's Wharf, the last wharf up the creek on the Occahonnock. Just below Rue's Wharf was Shields Wharf but this was just an occasional stop for the boats. Shields Wharf has long since been abandoned, as have most of the wharves on all the creeks, and Rue's Wharf is now known locally as "Lord Harbor." Then came Davis Wharf, still a

post office and store; just across from Davis Wharf on the Northampton side was Read's Wharf, now Morley, and farther down the creek on the Northampton side still stands Concord Wharf. On Nandua Creek was Boggs' Wharf, now Nandua; Pungoteague had its Hoffman's Wharf, now Harborton. Onancock was the "layover place" for the boats serving Onancock Creek, and on opposite sides of this creek were Finney's Wharf and Evans' Wharf. Finney's Wharf was "down Sleutkill Neck" but later we "got mighty high toned" down that Neck and now it is Prospect Neck.

Those steamboat days were "great days." Going to Baltimore meant as much then as going to Europe does now. Baltimore received and welcomed both our produce and our people, for many of our people found Baltimore a very good place to live and "moved to Baltimore," so many doing this that for a time Baltimore was known as "Eastern Shore's poorhouse." On the seaside, Wachapreague and Chincoteague were ports of entry and shipping points, especially for seafood products, and their connections were with the cities on the Atlantic.

But to go back to names: Accomack apparently believes in money or things that have to do with money; she has her Cashville and her Pennyville. Also, she has her Guinea, stretching from Pennyville to Currituck, with Boston as its capital. Northampton has her Treherneville but that is a newcomer compared to Boston. However, her Hare Valley runs Guinea a close second.

When the railroad came through in 1884, it made a beeline down the peninsula and thus missed most of the old towns. Stations were established every three or four miles, sometimes where there was a store, sometimes where there was a store not too far away from the site selected but apparently a place where the railroad authorities thought a community would be well served. Of course these stations had to be named, and of course the railroad authorities had the privilege of naming these stations. If the site selected already had a name this name was of course used. New Church, Nassawadox, were right on the line of the railroad so these places became stations on the new road. The road missed Drummondtown so Greenbush became the station for Drummondtown. The same thing applied to Eastville so the station for Eastville became Eastville Station just as in later years Belle Haven Siding became the station for Belle Haven. Not many miles below New Church was Bloomtown, so Bloomtown became the station for Temperanceville. In later years

Bloomtown was changed to Makemie Park. Keller was probably known locally as Mears's Store but the railroad named this station Keller in honor of one of the railroad officials. Painter also was named in honor of another railroad official, but Painter for a time was very much mixed up. The station was Painter but the post office was Mappsburg, and Mappsburg was also Hawk's Nest. The postal authorities finally changed the name of the post office to Painter and this cleared up this situation. And of Keller, now is a very good time to tell a story. The story is that a stranger was driving down Highway 13 and stopped at a filling station above Accomac to inquire the distance to Cape Charles and was given this answer: "If you get through Accomac without killing anybody, get through Tasley without getting killed, and get through Keller without getting drunk you are thirty miles from Cape Charles." To go back to railroad names, before the railroad, what is now Onley was known as the Cross Roads. This name would not do for a railroad station so Cross Roads was changed to Onley in honor of the home of Governor Henry A. Wise whose Home "Only" was not far from the new station, on Onancock Creek.

And of boats and railroads, no part of Virginia so well exemplifies that something we call progress as does the Eastern Shore. For approximately two hundred years the only connection the Eastern Shore had with other parts of Virginia was by sailboat. Crossing the Chesapeake Bay to Jamestown, to Hampton, to Norfolk could have been far from a pleasure trip so crossings were more than probably limited only to business purposes. In 1705 the General Assembly authorized ferry transportation between the port of Northampton, on Cherrystone Creek, and Hampton. In 1745 one Littleton Eyre was granted a ferry license and built what was known as the "Ferry House", an "ordinary" for passengers awaiting transportation across the Bay. Fare was set at twenty shillings for man or horse and crossing was dependent upon weather conditions which probably explains why "Ferry House" was built. Strange as it may seem to us now, passports were necessary to leave the Eastern Shore for Hampton or other Virginia ports on the other side of the Bay. Apparently this feeling that the Eastern Shore was not a part of Virginia goes back a "far piece." Then came the day of steamboats, and the ferry from the Port of Northampton changed from the sailboat to the steamboat. Then came the Baltimore, Chesapeake, and Atlantic Steamboat Company with its boats operating in all the creeks on the bayside and the schooners

that had been transporting the Eastern Shore's various products to Baltimore slowly faded out of the picture. Then in 1884 came the New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk Railroad (the "NYP & N"), and while it took some time for the shippers to use the services that the Railroad had to offer, gradually the convenience of stations, quicker transportation, and access to markets other than Baltimore, won out over the steamboats and Baltimore and the steamboats faded out of the picture. Then came the automobiles and the trucks, and the railroad faded out of the picture. All passenger trains were taken off in January, 1958 and the run of freight trains was cut to two a day. Fortunately for the Eastern Shore, some years before the Pennsylvania Railroad discontinued its passenger trains, and with these its ferry system to Norfolk, the Chesapeake Bay Ferry Commission came into existence, operating first from Cape Charles, then moving to a new site which the Commission named Kiptopeke, so we could and still can cross the Bay by ferry. But "Tempus goes fugiting" along and now the Ferry Commission, too, is passing out of the picture. A dream of many years is on the way to becoming a reality and in the short space of three years a bridge-tunnel combination will replace the ferries and they, too, will go out of commission and we will be driving across the Bay instead of crossing by ferry. A crossing that now takes from one and a half hours to two hours can then be made in twenty minutes! The Eastern Shore will have been discovered again and Virginia will at last know that the Eastern Shore is a part of Virginia.

When the automobile became a part of our daily living it was but natural that people would want to take their automobiles across the Bay. The Pennsylvania Railroad was not equipped for this type of passenger but it had to do something. It took the automobile but it also took the gas out of the automobile before allowing the automobile to go on the boat. The amount taken out would be replaced on the other side, but what complaints there were as to the kind of gas used for replacement as well as the amount replaced! Perhaps even then the Railroad was looking into the future and seeing that this something they called the automobile some day would be the principal method of transportation, and consign the passenger and freight transportation by railroad to the limbo of lost days.

It should be mentioned that in its best days the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad was the best paying branch of the great Pennsylvania System. While the railroad, and later

the automobile, were of almost inestimable benefit to the Eastern Shore, they also brought changes that meant something of a loss, though this loss could hardly be said to have had a monetary value. Closer communication between peoples, communities, organizations, must of necessity bring changes, and in the case of the Eastern Shore, there were more changes in customs than in anything else. Those early settlers were mainly English, which also means that they were also Anglo-Saxon, and Anglo-Saxon customs and language were handed down from generation to generation. For generations, with the possible exception of some of the remote mountain sections of Virginia, the purest Anglo-Saxon pronunciation was found here on the Eastern Shore. For example: "Cyart", "gyrl", "gyarden", gyaurd", to name just a few words, were correct pronunciations in our great-grandparents' days, and these were the old English or Anglo-Saxon pronunciations that these grandparents had "been fotched up on." When we came into closer contact with people of other sections and used these pronunciations these people looked at us a little askance, so gradually we dropped these and talked just like other people. Conformity, the sin of the age. We just can't be different from other people.

Then there were a few expressions we have lost such as "That's the head thing I have ever known" meaning the most unusual thing; any farm boy in the early eighties - and all boys were farm boys in the early eighties - knew what was meant when he was told to "Go head that cow" when the cow was heading for some place she should not be heading for; or "Watch and head John off when he comes by and tell him so and so," just good old Anglo-Saxon expressions that were local to the Eastern Shore. Then there was a very descriptive nautical term we no longer hear - when someone was doing something quite out of the ordinary or something unusual for this individual he was "going about." (We probably are not willing to admit it but there is a lot of "going about" even today.) Probably every family has some expression peculiar to that family and in my family, to be a bit personal, it is "There goes Jinny, headlong, can't wait for nothing or nobody." Jenny and John lived with my grandparents for a number of years and finally decided they would get married. It was always believed that Jennie "popped the question" but it was known that Jennie arranged for the license and of course "set the day." When John heard about this, his comment was "There goes Jinny, headlong, can't wait for nothing or nobody." That was more than seventy-

five years ago but even today when someone in the family goes off at a tangent or springs something very much out of the ordinary, someone is sure to spring "Jinny" on him or her. Incidentally, "Jinny" and John were the salt of the earth; they were right at the top of the best farmers in the community and their sons were among the first in the county to own an automobile when automobiles came into being. It was of such people that this Eastern Shore of ours was made.

And of these changes of terms and lost words we surely should not forget to "chunk" something. Only the people on the Eastern Shore "chunked" things and now even the people on the Eastern Shore no longer "chunk" things. Mayhap some one remembers when we were told to "Throw a chunk at him"! or "Chunk that rabbit"; or "Get me a chunk of wood." We did not have rocks to throw at things so we just chunked them.

We hear much today about the good things we have to eat on this Eastern Shore and all the things we hear are true. Hog killing time brought chitterlings, and souse cake - no one knows these now. Perhaps having heard about these many are glad they do not hear about them now. Incidentally, hog killing days were big days in the long ago; these, too, are a part of the long ago past. Country cured Eastern Shore hams? They are what the gods fed on but they "just ain't here no more."

And who today knows "molasses fritters?", or "Tipsy cake", or "Floating island", or "Trifle"? It is very easy to see why we lost some things but I cannot see why we lost "Tipsy cake".

And of changes, many of us today have seen what changes increased communication may bring about. Chincoteague, for instance, was almost a land unto itself until the Whealton Causeway was opened in 1925. Going to Chincoteague was an undertaking, as well as event. Chincoteague, naturally, had an accent that was peculiarly her own and one could tell an "Islander" as soon as one talked with him. With the opening of the Causeway it was easy to get to Chincoteague and easy for Chincoteague to get to the mainland, so the inevitable happened - Chincoteague was soon talking like everyone else. Even Tangier has lost her characteristic accent, not because there has been any change in the connection between Tangier and the mainland but because more people on Tangier left the Island to go to college or to go into various phases of work and more people began to visit the Island. And now Tangier, too, is following the line of progress

and losing her characteristic accent.

And of the Causeway, the Eastern Shore has had only three toll bridges. Long before the Chincoteague Causeway was even dreamed about, lower Accomack had a toll bridge across Occahonnock Creek, connecting Shields property with Rue property and thus forming a shorter route from the Craddockville-Scarborough Neck-Craddock Neck area to Belle Haven and points East and South. This bridge was built by Mr. "Sammy" Shields (therefore known as Shields's Bridge) some time in the eighties, with a toll gate and toll house on the Rue side of the bridge. The bridge was operated by the Shields family for a number of years, sometimes in good repair and sometimes not; sometimes you might be starting across the bridge and see ahead of you a board standing upright in the middle of the bridge which meant that there was a broken board and you proceeded at your own risk. On the Craddock side, the road to the bridge was by way of what was then Shields Wharf around the creek shore to the foot of the bridge. If the tide was high there was just no getting around the shore, so one had to turn back and go to Belle Haven by way of Middlesex. These conditions, together with the fact that one was saving a dime or a quarter if one went to Belle Haven by way of Middlesex, meant that the bridge was not a "big paying" proposition and this could also be the reason why the bridge was not always kept in good traveling condition. In the early part of 1900 the County took over the bridge, and toll charges were discontinued but the County was not a much better bridge keeper than the Shieldses for even under County operation the bridge was not always safe for travel. The bridge as we know it today came into being some years after the State took over the operation of the highways during the administration of Highway Commissioner Shirley.

The second toll bridge was the Machipongo-Quinby bridge, a stock company bridge built in 1898 by Capt. Frank Smith at a total cost of $2600.00. Toll, five cents for foot passengers, ten cents for horse and buggy. This remained a toll bridge until 1933 when it was taken over and rebuilt by the State at a cost of $14,-000.00. (Figures relating to the construction of the bridge were found in the papers of the late Mrs. W. B. Mapp, daughter of Capt. Frank Smith, by Mrs. Mapp's daughter, Mrs. Calvert Cullen.) And didn't costs jump in thirty-five years!

Indications now are that the fourth toll bridge will be the bridge from Chincoteague to Assateague, this bridge now being under construction by a stock company with plans for completion

in the spring of 1962. With the completion of this bridge, folk on the Eastern Shore for the first time in the history of the Shore, will be able to drive to the seashore. Assateague Island fronts directly on the Atlantic Ocean and has one of the best beaches to be found on the Atlantic coast. Since Assateague can only be reached by boat, this excellent beach has never meant very much to the folk on the Eastern Shore. Three quarters of a century ago, however, Assateague Island, and also Hog Island, farther down the coast in Northampton County, was a very important place because of its lighthouse. There were enough people on both islands to justify schools, and Hog Island had a school population large enough to maintain a school with two or three teachers. But again progress came and with new lighting developments lighthouse keepers no longer were necessary, and the population of both islands came back to the mainland. Assateague is now largely a reservation under Federal Government control for the protection and development of wildlife, and in recent years government officials connected with the federal program have made their homes on the Island. Assateague is also widely known as the feeding ground and breeding ground of the famous Chincoteague ponies. The proposed bridge between Chincoteague and Assateague will open an entirely new world to much of the Eastern Shore, as well as to many who visit the Shore. The average stranger, knowing very little about the Eastern Shore except that it is a strip of land between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay, expects to see the Atlantic as soon as he lands at Cape Charles or Kiptopeke, and is very much disappointed when he does not do this. As a matter of fact, there are any number of people living on the Eastern Shore of Virginia who have never seen the ocean from its Eastern Shore of Virginia side. From Cape Charles on up the coast, there is that string of islands and marshlands between the mainland and the ocean, and to get to the ocean one must sail for an hour or more out of one of the numerous inlets or creeks that are between the mainland and the ocean. As a rule only the fishermen do this. With the exception of the Chincoteague Causeway - and this Causeway does not lead directly to an island facing the Atlantic - the only direct connection between the mainland and any of these islands is the causeway to Wallops Island, a causeway recently established by the Federal Government after several years of operation on Wallops Island. This, however, is not a public causeway, but a causeway for the benefit of Government business and Government operation of Wallops Island.

Two Illustrious Citizens

If one were asked to name the most illustrious citizen of the Eastern Shore of Virginia the answer would probably be Henry Alexander Wise, Congressman, Minister to Brazil, Governor of Virginia, General in the Confederate Armv.

Mr. Wise was born at Drummondtown, now Accomac, in a house on the site of what is now the Accomac Hotel, on December 3, 1806, the son of Major John Wise V and Sarah Corbin Cropper Wise. He graduated at Washington College, Pennsylvania, then went to the law school of Judge Henry St. George Tucker, Winchester, Virginia. He began the practice of law in Accomack County but went to Nashville, Tennessee in 1828 where he married Ann Jennings. He returned to Accomack in 1830, was elected to Congress in 1833, appointed Minister to Brazil in 1844, resumed the practice of law in Accomack in 1847, nominated candidate for Governor in 1855 and served as Governor of Virginia from 1856 to 1860, which means that he was Governor of Virginia at the time of John Brown's raid, and is sometimes described as "The Governor who hung John Brown." At the close of his term as Governor, Mr. Wise sold his home in Accomack, "Only," and settled in Princess Anne County on a plantation he had purchased from his brother, where he was living when he entered the Confederate Army. After the War he moved to Richmond, where he was living at the time of his death.

During those troublous times of the 1860's "way up North" they were singing "We'll hang Jeff Davis up the sour apple tree" and "way down South" they were singing "We'll hang John Brown up the sour apple tree." Then someone came up with this:

"Old Henry A. Wise put his specs upon his eyes
And sent him to the happy land of Canaan."

Though hardly a name to most people on the Eastern Shore, the most illustrious man in the field of education from the Eastern Shore of Virginia was Dr. Edward Southey Joynes. Dr. Joynes was born at Accomac, the son of Thomas R. Joynes, educated at the University of Virginia and later received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Heidelberg. So far as I have any record Dr. Joynes was the only native Eastern Shoreman to receive a degree from a foreign university. Dr. Joynes taught

French and German at William and Mary College, at Washington and Lee University, and at various other institutions but his longest term of service was at the University of South Carolina, where for a number of years he was head of the Department of Modern languages. Dr. Joynes was the author of numerous textbooks on modern languages, especially the Joynes-Meissner French Grammar and the Joynes-Meissner German Grammar. Dr. Joynes was considered by some of his fellow members on the University of South Carolina Faculty as having various idiosyncrasies, one of these being that no student in his classes could use a "used or second-hand textbook." He was using the textbooks of which he was author and all students had to contribute to his royalties by purchasing new textbooks.

When I knew Dr. Joynes, he was professor emeritus at the University of South Carolina and lived on the University campus. After the death of his wife, Dr. Joynes moved into the city Y. M.-C. A., making this institution his home until his death in 1918. His will provided that his stock of wines and liquors be sold and the proceeds be given to the Columbia City Y. M. C. A.

One of Dr. Joynes's contributions to the field of education on the college level was in the establishment of the department of English as we know it in colleges today, which means that the field of English has not always been a field of its own. Instruction in English came in the department of languages, particularly in Latin and Greek, in the field of philosophy, elocution, and other kindred fields.

Shortly after World War I, Dr. Joynes's son, Captain Harry Joynes, United States Army, built a home in Accomac and lived there for a few years.

What People Wrote In Their Wills

The wills of our forefathers make very interesting reading. To many there is a personal interest in the wills recorded from 1632 on, and to others there is just the interest that comes from reading something that was written two hundred or three hundred years ago, what expressions were used, how the testators of those early days expressed themselves, both from the standpoint of written English and historical interest. Practically all of these early wills had one thing in common: there was a long preamble, preliminary, call it what you will. An excellent illustration is the will of the first John Wise, written 20th October 1693, probated November the 19th, 1695: "In the name of God Amen: I John Wise, Sr., being in health and perfect memory thanks to Almighty God and calling to remembrance the uncertaine estate of this transitory life and that all flesh must yield unto death when it please God to call me out of this life, I therefore doe make, constitute, and ordaine and declare this my last will and testament in manner and forme following - and first being penitent and sorry from the bottome of my heart for all my sins past most humbly desire of Allmighty God to forgive them all I give and commit my soule unto Allmighty God my Saviour and Redeemer in whome and by the merits of Jesus Christ I trust and believe assuredly to be saved and to have full remission of all my sins and that my soul with my body at the general day of Resurrection shall rise againe with joy through the meritts of Christ's death and passion possess and inherit the Kingdome of Heaven prepared for His elect and chosen and my body to be buried in such place where it shall please my Executors hereafter named to appoynt, and now for settling of my estate and such goods and chattels and debts as it has pleased God far above my deserts to bestow upon me I do order give and dispose of same in manner and forme following" — But John Wise failed to name his Executors and these had to be appointed by the Court. One interesting item in this will: "I hereby give to my granddaughters Hannah and Naomi twenty shillings with which to purchase a mourning ring to wear in memory of me." Naomi later became the wife of Francis Makemie.

In a will dated 22 November, 1799, William Mears, after bequeathing one-third of his property to his wife and disposing of the remainder of his property, closed his will with this: "And I al-

so give to my wife one-third of my still to still her own licker that is made from her third part of the orchard so long as she remains my widder."

Jennings Wise gives the following will from the Northampton County Records: "Iff itt please God that I do dye, my debts being discharged, what debts remayne I give to Goodman Fisher, and he to see me layd in the ground like a man"

"The mark of William Briar

"27th Oct. 1639"

In 1837 another William Mears had this in his will: "I leave to my son Patrick $25.00 and no more; to my son Robert one mare, saddle, and bridle, and $100.00 in cash and no more. And no matter what either of them may say, no more." (Both of these William Mears were my maternal ancestors so I can use their names without hurting any one's feelings.)

Excerpts from the will of the Rev. Thomas Teackle "In the name of God Amen

"I Thomas Tecle of the County of Accomack Knowing that this house of my mortal Tabernacle must shortly be dissolved and having expectations in heaven according to the truth of the glorious Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ whereof I am made a minister doe by this my last Will and Testament order and dispose of that portion of worldly estate which God far beyond my desarts have given me in manner and forme as followeth - -"

Then Rev. Teackle proceeds to dispose of a very substantial estate including property in both Virginia and Maryland and one of these bequests reads as follows: "And I doe further give unto my said daughter Margret free liberty to make for her use one thousand gallons of sider out of the orchard which is on the plantation where I now live every yeare til my sone comes to age but it is understood that she is to make the said sider within some reasonable time after notis given by my said sones Gardian."

Tho. Teacle
The seal

Recorded in Accomack County Court
March the 4th 1695

It is generally supposed that Thomas Teackle was rector of St. George's Church but this is just another supposition. This may have been due to the fact that all through the records of Northampton County he is referred to as "Minister for the Up-

per Parish" (of Northampton County) also called "Nuswattocks Parish" or "Hungars Parish." Actually Thomas Teackle never did live in his own parish, according to Whitelaw; he lived first in the "Lower Parish," Northampton County, and moved to Accomack County in 1674. What was then the "Pungoteague Church" had its own rector, Henry Parke, who served as rector of this church until his death in 1687. Teackle might possibly have served this church after the death of Henry Parke, but there seems to be no positive record of this.

The last will and Testament of Wackawamp Indian Empr. My will and desire is that none should rule but only my daughter.

I doe give her my two gunns together with my house with all my household goods and all whichever I possessed further my will is that sones Marhesum and Worahakon shall governe untill my Daughter come to yeares of government according to our customs in that case and that after my daughters decease that my brothers sone whose name is Abomepen possess and rule my people and that in case that both the beforehand mentioned I then bequeath all therefore and the reste unto my trusted brothers sone Quemarheto.

Also whereas I formerly sould my land out of Love and Affection I alwaes did have to the English It is my desire that they may well continue their Love to my said heires and that theye live as formerly friends to mee, Also I desire that my heires may live at Ockahannock or Wachapreague which I think most convenient then my desire is that the English will procure a patten for theyr Land.

This I declare to bee my will & Testament this 26th day of Janry: 1656

The marke of Wackawamp
Indian Emperor

Signed in the presence of
George parker
Randall Rousel (Revell)
George Truett
wife and daughter Also present the fouer (four)
above mentioned great men

Wackawampe

At a Court held at Occahannock the 22th of April /57.
Present Luit. Coll Thos: Johnson
Major Wm Waters Major Saml Goldsmith
Capt. Wm Whittington Mr. Wm. Kendall

This day the Last Will and testament of Wackiwamp Great Emporer of the Eastern Shore was by the Judge of this Court publickly viewed and read and the depositions of Captain George Parker and George Truett were took to be in readyness that the said Wackiwamp this testament may bee Authenicated & proved at the County Court to bee houlde (held) for this County of Northampton

Teste: Edmond Matthews Clk Court

22th Aprill, 1657. The deposition of Capt. George Parker taken in open Court - -

Sayeth that hee did witness the last Will and testament of Wackawamp Great Emperor of the Easterne Shore and that your deponent to the last will of his judgment and knowledge did make the said will according to the construction of the interpreter but more sayeth not

George Parker

The deposition of George Truett taken in open Court the 22th Aprill 1657

Sayeth that hee was present at the time Capt. George Parker with the last will and testament of Wackiwamp Great Emperor of the Eastern Shore and to the best of this deponent's understandings by Interpreter and knowledge of the Indian Tongue that said will was made as Wackiwamp directed it & that the said Emperor was in perfect sense and Memory further sae not.

Teste Edmonds Clk. Court

The above will is recorded in Book labeled "Deeds-Wills, etc. 1557-1656, Northampton County, No. 7.
(Copy obtained through courtesy
Hon. Adams, Eastville, Virginia)

Record Of Indenture In Accomack County Court Records

Indentured servants or "bound out" servants seemed to have played a very important part in the development of the Virginia Colony, and Court records of those early days are filled with copies of indenture. I know this is "lese majeste" but it is more than probable that the ancestors of many of us "F. F. V.'s" came over as indentured servants, though this does not mean that these indentured servants were necessarily ignorant or illiterate people. Indenture was a part of English life and any one who wanted to learn a trade or even enter certain professions had to start as an indentured servant, or serve a period of apprenticeship. With many young men it was one way to get to the new country, the best way to get started on a new life in a new world, so they were apparently quite willing to obligate themselves to working for someone else for a period of years and thus get the opportunity to "start out on their own." The records show that the one hundred orphan boys brought to the Colony in 1619 were indentured to the colonists at Jamestown by the Court under certain conditions set up by the General Assembly. Parents, of course, had the authority and the right to indenture their children to any one the parents might select, though it seems rather unusual to indenture a six year old boy as this father in Accomack did "in ye yeare of our Lord God one thousand Sevean hundred & tooe."

"This indenture made this twenty eight day of November in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand Sevean hundred & tooe: between Sarah Coe of Accomack County of the one part widow & Robert Crouson of the other part of the County of Accomack: Witnesseth That the above saide Robert Crowson hath put his son Thomas Crouson being at this present six yeare ten months & fifteen days of age hath put his said son Thomas frely & vollontarily of his own free will an aprentis unto the Said Sarah Coe; and in case of her Desese her son William Coe & in case of her said sons desese Then the said widows eairs: which said prentis is to serve after the manner of a servant which said prentis or servant shall well & truly serve untill he arrive to the age of twenty & one years: During which said time the said a-

bovesd Thomas the sd Sarah Coe & in case of her desese her son William Coe and in case of her sd sons desese to her eaires or assins well & truly shall serve hur or his secrets shall keep close his commandments Lawfull & honest every where he shall gladly do to his said Mistress or Master he shall not suffer to be done to the value of twelve pense by ye yeare but he shall let if he may or else imediately admonish his said Mistris or Master thereof: The goods of his Said Mistress or Master he shall not Inordinately waste nor them to any body lend: at cards or dise or any unlawful games he shall not play: fornication he shall not comit within his said Mistress or Masters house or elce where Matrimoney he shall not contract Taverns he shall not frequent with his own pro: Goods day or night he shall not himself absent: or prolong himself from his said Mistress or Master service: but in all things shall beare & behave himself as an apprentis or Servant ought to do towards his said Mistress or Master during his servitude: and the sd Sarah Coe widow or in case of her desese her son William Coe: and in case his desese hur eaires or Either of them shall find the sd aprentis sofitiant meatte Drink washing & Lodgin and aparill sofficiant for such an Aprentis & at ye expirn to Reseve a good Soffitiant Sute of aparell sutable for such a servant and to ye true performance of ye above premises we the parties above Righten have hareunder sitt our hands the yeare & Day above wrighten

his mark
Robert Crowson
mark
Sarah S Coe
hur

Recorded December the 12th 1702 per me
Jno Washbourne Cl Cur

This indenture made this 7th day of March in ye year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and one between Henery Smith of the one party and Thomas Taylor & Ann his wife of the other parties witnesseth that I the saide Henery Smith as being the reputed father of John Arlington do bind and set over ye aforesd John Arlington unto Thomas Taylor & Ann his wife as an apprentice untile he shall arrive at ye age of one and twenty years to serve them or either of them in any Lawfull imployment they shall imploy him or set him aboute and I the said Tho: Taylor & Ann Taylor do obleg our selves to find the saide John Arlington sufficient meate drink and apparell dureing the said time of his apprenticeship also we the said Thomas Taylor and

Ann Taylor do oblege our selves to Learn the said John Arlington to read any chapter in the bible for and in consideration of the above articles we do heare unto set our hands the day and year above written

Henery Smith
Ann Taylor

Test Robt Snead Cl: Cur:

That there was husband and wife trouble in those long ago days as well as in these so-called modern days is shown by this

"Notice on Court House Doore"

These may sertifie whome may be consarned that I the subscriber Doath 'forwarne all persons or person to Deale Batter or swop or truck or any wayes to have any Dealings in any way with my wife Elce Leamat or to harbour her in their house or houses or any ways to keep her from her sd husband if any one shall have any dealing with her in any way they must exspect the rigor of the Law if my sd wife shall deale with any one they: may exspect nothing from the subs as Witness my hand this 3d day of March 1702/3

Signum
Charles A. Leamat

Set up at the Court house Doore at a Court held for Accomack County March the 2d 1702 and Recorded at the request of the aforesd Charles Lamate March ye 23 1702

Jno: Washbourne
Cl Cur Com Accomack

Farming In Accomack County Half A Century Ago

In 1905 my sister, Mattie S. Wise (Mrs. Bailey A. Bell), was teaching in Washington County, a county in which farming was entirely different from farming on the Eastern Shore. My sister lived with Mr. A. J. Huff while teaching in Washington County and Mr. Huff was one of the "big farmers" in that county of big farmers. Mr. Huff's farming was in cattle and grain, an acreage of one thousand or more acres, and Mr. Huff probably had more cattle on his farm at that time than we had on the entire Eastern Shore. Mr. Huff was a member of the General Assembly and therefore knew Virginia quite well from Washington County to Richmond, but like many other Virginians knew very little about the Eastern Shore. However, he was interested in farming on the Eastern Shore, and at his request my sister requested our father to describe for Mr. Huff farming as it was done on the Eastern Shore. The letter explaining our way of farming follows.

Dear Mattie,

I will take your letter as your questions are asked & try to answer them.

You asked what we do to improve the land. We haul shatters & woods mold & compost them together & spread broadcast on the land, as thick as we can well work it in, we sow Rye, Scarlet Clover & such crops & plough them under in a green state, we also use Black Peas in the same way. For Irish Potatoes we use from 1,000 to 1500 lbs. guano per acre.

For sweets we use from 600 to 1200 lbs. per acre.

Hayman & Spanish Potatoes sell for about $1.25 to $1.50 per Bbl.

We usually make from 5 to 6 Bbls. of corn per acre, or 25 to 30 bushels, this is about an average, of course we sometimes make 12 to 15 Bbls. on some land.

Sweet potatoes usually dig all the way from 50 to 150 Bbls per acre, it depends upon how early you dig them.

Irish Potatoes average about 75 Bbls. per acre.

We use guano sometimes for corn, about 400 lbs. to the acre.

We use a good bit of salt as a fertilizer for sweet potatoes.

The highest point above sea level is about twenty feet. The County is about fifty miles long & from 10 to 15 miles wide.

Our soil is a sandy loam but not real sandy like some sections. Northampton land is on an average better than our land, & better adapted to growing Irish Potatoes than Acco. We can grow better sweets. We do not raise any wheat & grow but few oats but we can beat the world in growing Sweet Potatoes. We grow right many Onions. The freight on the potatoes was 97 cents. (My father had shipped a barrel of Hayman potatoes to Mr. Huff. I wonder what the freight on a barrel of potatoes shipped to Glade Spring would be today.) We use pine shatters spread broadcast on the land also for Sweet Potatoes & by using guano make fine crops.

I was sorry I could not get out there for Xmas. All well. Hope you & Lottie have spent a pleasant Xmas. We are having lovely weather. All send love.

E. S. Wise

December 28, 1905

No matter how many letters my father wrote to his children they were simply signed "E. S. Wise."

And carrying out the idea of beating the world growing sweet potatoes, in those far-off days Accomack County was known for three things in the order named - fast horses, sweet potatoes, and pretty girls.

Eastern Shoremen In The Congress Of The United States

According to James E. Mears, in The Shoreline, Eastern Shore News, the Eastern Shore had six representatives in the House of Representatives, prior to the War Between the States, four of these from Accomack County and two from Northampton County, these Congressmen being as follows: Thomas Evans, Thomas M. Bayly, Thomas H. Bayly, Henry A. Wise, John Stratton, and Severn E. Parker. Wise was a Democrat; political affiliation of Evans and Stratton is not known, but the others were Whigs. Since the War Between the States the Shore had two representatives in Congress: Judge George T. Garrison, Democrat, and T. H. Bayly Browne, Republican, both of Accomack County. And we probably regret having to admit it but both Accomack and Northampton Counties cast more votes for the Know Nothing candidate opposing Henry A. Wise in his campaign for the Governor of Virginia than they did for Henry A. Wise. However, Wise carried the home county of his opponent and carried the State by a majority of over 10,000 votes.

In Virginia's General Assembly the Shore has had one Negro delegate, this during the Reconstruction Period, Peter Carter, from Northampton County. His grandson, Dr. Peter Carter, was for a number of years a member of the United States Department of Health in Washington.

Many of us remember the candidacy of our G. Walter Mapp for Governor of Virginia but probably few of us remember that Accomack County has had one woman candidate for this high office, Mrs. George Custis, from Keller, Virginia. Mrs. Custis was a self-appointed candidate for Governor for the Socialist Party in 1922 but when the votes were counted there was not much evidence that she was "in the running." At any rate, Keller has had two candidates for the highest office in the State.

Odds And Ends

SOME PRESIDENTIAL FIRSTS

(Borrowed from Elizabeth Shafer)

First election having party candidates - John Adams vs. Thomas Jefferson, 1796.

First President to serve in the White House - John Adams, 1800.

First inaugural address to be delivered in the open, before the Capitol - that of James Monroe, 1817.

First political conventions (in place of congressional caucuses) - Andrew Jackson vs. John Quincy Adams.

First President to run under the party name of "Democrat" - Andrew Jackson, 1828. (Party began as Democratic Republican under Jefferson.)

First President to pass on in office - William Henry Harrison (oldest man ever nominated for President) one month after his inauguration in 1841.

First "dark horse" candidate - James K. Polk, 1845.

First (and only) bachelor President - James Buchanan.

First President to run under the party name of "Republican" - Abraham Lincoln, 1860. (John C. Fremont was the new party's first nominee, in 1856.)

First President to be assassinated - Abraham Lincoln, 1865.

First presidential election in which Negroes voted - Ulysses S. Grant vs. Horatio Seymour, 1868.

First use of donkey as party symbol for Democrats - by Thomas Nast in Harper's Weekly Jan. 15, 1870.

First use of elephant as party symbol for Republicans - by Thomas Nast, also in Harper's Weekly Nov. 7, 1874.

First (and only) President to be elected to two nonconsecutive terms - Grover Cleveland in 1884 and 1892.

First President to be married in the White House - Grover Cleveland, to Miss Frances Folsom, in June, 1886.

First presidential election campaign in which money was

spent on a grand scale - William McKinley vs. William Jennings Bryan, 1896.

First election forecasts made by New York Tribune in 1900 - McKinley vs. Bryan.

First presidential election in which women voted - Warren G. Harding vs. James M. Cox, 1920.

First inaugural address to be broadcast by radio - Calvin Coolidge, 1925.

First third-term President - Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1940.

First fourth-term President - F. D. R., 1944.

First inaugural to be televised - Harry S. Truman, 1949 (from the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi River).

WHICH CHILD ARE YOU AND WHEN DO YOU DO YOUR WASHING?

Monday's child is fair of face,
Tuesday's child is full of grace,
Wednesday's child is full of woe,
Thursday's child has far to go,
Friday's child is loving and giving,
Saturday's child works hard for its living,
And a child that's born on the Sabbath day
Is fair and wise and good and gay.

They that wash on Monday
Have all the week to dry;
They that wash on Tuesday
Are not so much awry;
They that wash on Wednesday
Are not so much to blame;
They that wash on Thursday
Wash for shame;
They that wash on Friday
Wash in need;
And they that wash on Saturday,
Oh, they are slovens, indeed.

Rain before seven
Clear before eleven.

Evening red and morning gray
Will set the traveler on his way,
But evening gray and morning red
Will bring down rain upon his head.

Rainbow at night,
Sailor's delight;
Rainbow at morning
Sailors take warning.

Rain while the sun is shining, the devil is beating his wife. Stick a pin in the ground, lie down on the ground, put your ear over the pin, and you can hear the wife crying.

Thick, heavy corn shucks foretell a cold winter.

A ring around the moon means bad weather. Bad weather will be as many days off as there are stars in the ring.

Seeing the new moon over the left shoulder means bad luck.

"A Little Bit Of This And A Little Bit Of That"

When our grandmothers and our great-grandmothers were asked how they made some delicious dish that had been served at the good dinners they often had, they usually answered, "A little pinch of this and a little pinch of that and that's all there is to it." So while what follows could hardly be called "a delicious dish," it can be called a little bit of this and a little bit of that.

The first minister recorded on the Shore was the Rev. Robert Bolton, Anglican, of course, who was recommended to the London Company by the "Right Honourable Earl of Southampton." Mr. Bolton served the Colony from about 1623 to 1625 and then became rector of the church at James City.

The first Baptist minister was the Rev. Elijah Baker, who was put in prison at Accomac for preaching without license. The first Presbyterian minister was the Rev. Francis Makemie, "Father of Presbyterianism in the United States."

Francis Makemie came to Maryland about 1684 and established at Rehobeth, Maryland, the first regular Presbyterian church in this country. This church is still in regular use, located just across the Pocomoke River from where Makemie's monument now stands. Like the Rev. Baker, the Rev. Makemie was once arrested for preaching without a license, carried to Williamsburg for trial, and defended himself so ably that the Governor licensed Makemie's place of residence in Onancock as a place of worship and also gave Makemie a license to preach anywhere in the Colony. Makemie seems to have been as successful as a trader or merchant as he was a minister. After settling in Onancock he married Naomi Anderson, the daughter of a wealthy merchant and the granddaughter of the first John Wise, and his will, recorded in 1708, indicates that he had accumulated a considerable amount of this world's goods.

Unfortunately, there seems to be no definite record of the first Methodist minister on the Shore, but Bishop Asbury's notes indicate that he traveled on the Shore in 1785. The first, and therefore the oldest, Sunday School in the country is generally considered as having been established by the Oak Grove Meth-

odist Church under the leadership of the Rev. William Elliott, in 1785.

"HAIN'T YOU NEVER BEEN DOWN ON DE EASTERN SHORE?"

Hain't you never been down on de East'n Sho',
De land where de sea breezes blow?
De land where de sun fust see in de morn,
An' where every one wishes he was born?
You ain't never been there, you say? Dat true?
Well, I sho' is sorry for you.

Hain't you never been down on de East'n Sho',
De land where de tide rise so slow?
Where de sea and de old Chesapeake almost meet
An' break into foam at your feet?
You ain't never been there you say -
Well, I sho' is sorry for you.

Hain't you never been down on de East'n Sho',
De land where the sweet taters grow?
Where the land is so rich and the taters so fat
Dat's it's dripping with fatness they's at?
You ain't never been there, you say -
Well, I sho' is sorry for you.

Hain't you never been down on de East'n Sho',
On the coast where the wild ducks fly low?
The coast where the oysters grow big as your hand
And you swallow them whole like a man?
You ain't never et one like that, you say?
Well, I sho' is sorry for you.

Hain't you never been down on de East'n Sho',
Where the days go by in a glow?
Where life is the best and the most like a song,
A land where it seems there's no need to do wrong?
You ain't never been there, you say?
Then go, so I won't have to be sorry for you.

Over on the Eastern Shore
The Ocean calls to the Bay;
And over the towering pines,
And along the shores of the many
creeks

That creep in from Bay and Sea,
Soft breezes now are whispering:

"Just now it is Christmas Time;
Just now all history is waiting
and listening
For the song that the angels sang:
'Peace on earth, good will to men!'

For the Christ Child comes to earth
That men might live as men."

And so we sing with the breezes
That blow o'er the Eastern Shore -
"A Merry Christmas for Christmas Time
And forever and ever more."

HOME, SWEET HOME

'Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home;
A charm from the sky seems to hallow us there,
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere.
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!

An exile from home, splendor dazzles in vain;
Oh, give me my lowly thatched cottage again!
The birds singing gayly, that came at my call -
Give me them - and the peace of mind, dearer than all!
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!

I gaze on the moon as I tread the drear wild,
And feel that my mother now thinks of her child,
As she looks on that moon from our own cottage door
Thro' the woodbine, whose fragrance shall cheer me no more.
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!

How sweet 'tis to sit 'neath a fond father's smile,
And the caress of a mother to soothe and beguile!
Let others delight 'mid new pleasures to roam,
But give me, oh, give me, the pleasures of home!
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!

To thee I'll return, overburdened with care;

The heart's dearest solace will smile on me there;
No more from that cottage again will I roam;
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!
There's no place like home, oh, there's no place like home!

John Howard Payne

THE LORD GOD PLANTED A GARDEN

The Lord God planted a garden
In the first white days of the world,
And He set there an angel warden
In a garment of light unfurled.

So near to the peace of Heaven,
That the hawk might nest with the wren,
For there in the cool of the even'
God walked with the first of men.

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth -
One is nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.

Dorothy Frances Gurney

Inscription on the tomb of Captain John Smith, who died discredited in London in 1631:

"Here lyes one conquered, that hath conquered kings
Subdued large territories and done things
Which to the world impossible would seem
But that the truth is held in more esteem."

The Atlanta Constitution recently carried a re-publication of The Atlanta Century, a paper published in Atlanta in 1860, that carried at least one item of interest to Virginia and particularly to the Eastern Shore. This item was as follows: "Virginia To Form 'Minute Men', Richmond, Va." Resolutions to form "Minute Men" corps and "committees of safety" were adopted in Virginia Wednesday, at ex-Gov. Henry A. Wise's encouragement.

Some 2,000 persons enthusiastically approved the suggestions made by the state's former chief executive during his address at a barbecue in Princess Anne County.

The ex-governor also called for a convention, if Mr. Abraham Lincoln is elected next month, to "determine upon measures

for protecting our own safety and honor." The actions, which would "defend the Constitution of the United States," are part of a Southwide solidification of resistance to the Republican party.

The full wording of the adopted resolutions:

1. To appoint "committees of safety," as in Revolutionary War times, to consist of six persons from each magisterial district, a majority of whom may act for each district. They shall devise and control measures of police for our safety and for enrolling and organizing a body of "Minute Men" for whom they shall provide in all respects.

2. That the moment the election returns are made known, and it is ascertained that Mr. Abraham Lincoln is elected President of the United States, the general council of this county shall elect one delegate from each district to meet such delegates as may be appointed by other counties, to assemble in convention in Richmond, to determine upon measures for protecting our own safety and honor as a people, "for defending the Constitution of the United States, for saving our rights in the Union and for obtaining the sanction of the sovereign state of Virginia."

Further proof of Virginia's resistance came from the Richmond-Enquirer. It reported that 20 of the state's 90 "well-organized" cavalry companies will encamp in Richmond Nov. 7 to drill. It will reportedly be the "largest assembly of cavalry for drill in the history of the state." We know that there was the Accomack-Northampton militia company in 1860 and prior thereto but the evidence seems to indicate that this militia company was infantry, not cavalry. Then, of course, there is the oft-repeated story of the march of this Company of Militia to meet the Union Army. The Union Army, of course, came down through Delaware and Maryland, and when Virginia heard that the Union Army was on the way the Militia Company started out to meet the invaders, planning to "head these invaders off at the Virginia-Maryland line." When advance scouts brought information as to the size of this "invading army" "discretion seemed the better part of valour" and the militia company turned back without waiting to meet the "invading army." The story is that the militia company was three days marching toward the Virginia-Maryland line but one day only in getting back home. Many of these same militiamen later "slipped across the Bay" to join the Confederate Army and others engaged in blockade running from the numerous creeks on the Bayside.

Briefly, what actually happened was this: Practically from the beginning of the Secession question Federal authorities in Baltimore were insistent that a Federal Army be sent down to take charge of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Action was slow in coming but in November, 1861, a force of 4,500 Union soldiers under the command of Brigadier General Henry H. Lockwood assembled in Newtown, the Maryland community nearest the Virginia-Maryland line. Also in November, 1861, "Federal forces left Baltimore on the steamer Pocahontas, for the purpose of invading Accomack and Northampton Counties." The militia from Accomack and Northampton Counties camped at Oak Hall; the strong Federal Army was just a few miles away. Therefore it was not a question of "discretion being the better part of valor," or an "irresistible force meeting an unmovable body". It became a question of about 1200 militiamen, poorly equipped, meeting a well-equipped Union Army four or more times its number, or giving up its camp and going back to their respective homes. We know now that this was the only thing that could have been done. In justice to the Union Army Commander it should be said that the Union Army took just as long to get down to Accomack County as it did for the militia of the two counties to get back to their homes.

(For the information as to the Eastern Shore of Virginia militia and the Union Army I am indebted to Dr. Susie M. Ames, who, in her book, "Federal Policy Toward the Eastern Shore of Virginia", gives a most interesting and informative story of this phase of the War Between the States.)

ARITHMETICAL TABLES

Tables That Had To Be Learned In Those Early Public School Days

Long Measure

3 Barleycorns make 1 Inch
12 Inches make 1 Foot
3 Feet make 1 yard
5½ Yards or 16½ Feet make 1 Rod or Pole
40 Rods make 1 Furlong
8 Furlongs make 1 Mile
3 Miles make 1 League

Square Measure

144 Square Inches make 1 Square Foot

9 Square Feet make 1 Square Yard
30¼ Square Yards make 1 Square Rod or Perch
40 Square Rods make 1 Rood
4 Roods make 1 Acre
640 Acres make 1 Square Mile

Table

A Line equals 1/12 of an Inch
A Hand equals 4 Inches
A Pace equals 3 Feet
A Fathom equals 6 Feet

Cubic Feet

1728 Cubic Inches make 1 Cubic Foot
27 Cubic Feet make 1 Cubic Yard
16 Cubic Feet make 1 Cord Foot
8 Cord Feet
or
128 Cubic Feet make 1 Cord
24¾ Cubic Feet make 1 Perch of Stone or Masonry

Liquid Measure

4 Gills make 1 Pint
2 Pints make 1 Quart
4 Quarts make 1 Gallon
53 Gallons make 1 Hogshead

Troy Weight (Used in measuring gold, silver, etc.)

24 Grains make 1 Pennyweight
20 Pennyweights make 1 Ounce
12 Ounces make 1 Pound

Apothecaries Weight

20 Grains make 1 Scruple
3 Scruples make 1 Dram
8 Drams make 1 Ounce
12 Ounces make 1 Pound

Avoirdupois Weight

16 Drams make 1 Ounce
16 Ounces make 1 Pound
25 Pounds make 1 Quarter
4 Quarters
or 100 Pounds make 1 Hundredweight
20 Hundredweight
or 2000 Pounds make 1 Ton

United States Money

10 Mills make 1 Cent
10 Cents make 1 Dime
10 Dimes make 1 Dollar
10 Dollars make 1 Eagle (And who today ever heard of the Eagle?)

English Money

4 Farthings make 1 Penny
12 Pence make 1 Shilling
20 Shillings make 1 Pound or Sovereign
21 Shillings make 1 Guinea

Miscellaneous Table

12 Things make 1 Dozen
12 Dozen make 1 Gross
20 Things make 1 Score
24 Sheets of Paper make 1 Quire
20 Quires make 1 Ream
10 Reams make 1 Bale
196 Pounds make 1 Barrel of Flour
200 Pounds make 1 Barrel of Salt Meat

Foreign Measures had to be learned, too, in those faraway days.

For Instance:

Long Measure

10 Millimeters make 1 Centimeter
10 Centimeters make 1 Decimeter
10 Decimeters make 1 Meter
10 Meters make 1 Dekameter
10 Dekameters make 1 Hectometer
10 Hectometers make 1 Kilometer
10 Kilometers make 1 Myriameter - 6.21 miles nearly

Measures of Weight

10 Milligrams make 1 Centigram
10 Centigrams make 1 Decigram
10 Decigrams make 1 Gram
10 Grams make 1 Dekagram
10 Dekagrams make 1 Hectogram
10 Hectograms make 1 Kilogram
10 Kilograms make 1 Myriagram
10 Myriagrams make 1 Quintal

10 Quintals make 1 Millier or Tonneau
Incidentally, these Tables had to be learned or Else - -

POTATO HOLES

No one today knows anything about potato holes but these were a very essential part of all homes built in the 1700's or early 1800's. As the name implies, these were places of storage for potatoes during the winter, and were holes six or eight feet square and six or eight feet deep, dug out under one room in the house, and this room might be the parlor, the dining room, or maybe the hall, with a trap door serving both as flooring and covering. The holes were partly filled with shatters - and who today knows what shatters are? - and the potatoes, or whatever else was to be stored, partly covered with the shatters. When potatoes were needed our grandfathers and great-grandfathers just lifted up the trap door and lifted out the potatoes. The old houses that did not have a potato hole had a cellar; incidentally, they were cellars, not basements. A basement had windows on the ground level but cellars were strictly under ground with no outside light, and maybe a flight of steps leading down into the cellar. For the potato hole you just climbed in and climbed out.

One interesting story tells of another use to which a potato hole was put. During the War Between the States the Federal Army was constantly on the alert for Confederate soldiers who might have returned to the Shore for a visit to their families or for any other reasons, and on one occasion were in search of a soldier who was known to be somewhere south of the Pungoteague area. They traced him to a house at Nandua, a house later known as the Capt. Joe Boggs' house and much later as Nandua Harbor Club, entered and searched the house and then ordered the potato hole opened. Instead of getting down into the hole the officer in charge thrust his sword down through the shatters and feeling nothing solid decided there was nothing in the hole but potatoes. Actually he had thrust his sword between the legs of the man for whom he was searching and was none the wiser therefor.

What a far piece from those days of the 1860's to these days of the 1960's! The only thing we store now is sweet potatoes and we do that only when there is no market for them when they are first dug. Now is the day of the freezer or the locker in a freezing plant, and we simply freeze our chickens or vegetables and take these out of our freezer whenever we want them. And

this is what we call progress. Reference has been made to the steamboat days and to what the steamboats meant to the Shore. Not mentioned were two items that these boats brought to the folk on the Bayside. (The boats from Baltimore sailed only on the Bayside Creeks but the people on the Seaside knew boat days as well as the "baysiders" did.) At least one day in the week was ice day, when the boats brought ice from Crisfield and you met the boat at your wharf with your horse and cart to get your cake of ice or your half a cake of ice, took it home, packed it in a box of sawdust or packed it in sawdust in the cellar, if you had a cellar, hoping this would last until the next boat day. Then in Virginia's prohibition days the boats brought another product. Strong drink could not be bought or sold in Virginia but the law permitted the purchase of a quart a month outside of the State that could be brought into the State, all of which meant that every boat day was "bottle day" for somebody. All one had to do was to meet the boat and get the package one had ordered from some company in Baltimore. The story is told of one man who had several sons who met the boat at least once a week, getting a package each week in the name of one of the sons, until it came his turn the followng month and the same procedure could be followed again. I am ashamed to say it, but some of these men who met the boat were ardent followers of Bishop Cannon and our own G. Walter Mapp, who worked so strenuously to hold the prohibition line in Virginia. Incidentally, sometimes we can remember too many things too long.

HOUND DOGS

"Hound dogs" seem to be a very necessary part of the every day existence of many men on the Eastern Shore, a source of pleasure to many and a nuisance to others. According to Oliver Jackson Sands, Jr., in a recent issue of the Virginia Cavalcade, there is nothing new about hound dogs. According to Mr. Sands, the first mention of hound dogs in Virginia is found in the court records of Northampton County in 1691 when one Mike Dixon was brought before a magistrate on the charge that he kept a pack of "dogs" that attacked passersby. Dixon's defense was that "his pack of dogs was necessary for safety as they destroyed foxes, wolves and other varmint." The magistrate agreed with Dixon and dismissed the case. Like many other phases of our Eastern Shore life, hound dogs are therefore one of the traditions that has come down to us through the ages and apparently they still run "true to form."

Some of the things the old folk used to tell us -

"Let your head save your feet."

"You are carrying a lazy man's load, aren't you?"

"Don't make a short cut across the corn field."

"Don't talk too much with your tongue."

"The bottom log sho' has come on top."

"You must think you are somebody."

"If you don't eat everything on your plate it will be put away for your next meal," but when you are invited to dinner "Leave a little something on your plate for politeness sake."

"Don't get too big for your breeches."

"You are not the only pebble on the beach."

"A whistling woman and a crowing hen
Are neither fit for God nor men."

And to the boys when they had been a-courting -

"Be sure to rub that horse down when you put him in the stable."

Traveling The Eastern Shore

From Chincoteague to Kiptopeke and points all in between
There are always places you want to stop, some places
you've never seen;
You might call in at New Church, with Oak Hall on the way,
And you'd surely want to stop at Greenbackville, that
town on Chincoteague Bay.
And then you might come through Atlantic to see how potato
fields grow,
And then come out to Temperanceville which is certainly
one place you would know.
And then you might go down to Saxis, Sykes Island it used
to be,
But you'd have to travel through Sanford and by the place
where Makemie used to be.
And you'd certainly want to see Bull Beggar and stop
to shake hands with Belinda,
And then you might go to Miona just to see what you
could see.
And perhaps you'd want to run up to Silva, the place with
the fair lady's name,
And of course you must see Assawoman, the place with the
old Indian name.
You might want to jump over to Hallwood and then see what
Horsey looks like,
But by the time you've been through these places you
might wish you were back on the pike.
But you can still travel down through Bloxom and see
Mears and Winterville, too,
But to get back to Highway Thirteen it's Parksley you'd
have to pass through.
And back of Parksley is Leemont and also Hunting Creek town,
And if you jump from the West to the East you'd
probably just wind up at Newstown.
And of course you mustn't miss Modest Town, the place with
a bashful smile,

And you can then come on to Nelsonia, with travel just over a mile.

And if you still want to keep on traveling straight down Highway Thirteen,

You'll have to pass through Gargatha and Rue, and Centreville, too, I ween.

And then you'll hit the "Big City", the capital of the County, I mean,

The old, old town of Drummondtown which we now call Accomac,

And once you've hit this old, old town you never will want to turn back.

For Accomac is the lawyer's town, you hear them all over the place;

You'll hear their ubiquitous voices though you may not see their face.

But you can't listen to these always so you head on to Onancock town

But you'll have to pass through Tasley as you slowly head on down.

And when you come to Onancock you may want to pause a while

For the folk who live there will tell you it's the best place to stop and smile;

But you have to jump over to Onley which the old folk called Cross Road,

And across again to Savageville by one of the Bayside roads,

And then on down the old Stage Coach road, two other once famous places,

"Big Hell" and "Little Hell", but the frequenters there hid their faces;

And then on down to Bobtown - now how did it ever get that name?

But this is not far from Pungoteague, a place well known to fame,

For the Court sat there, the first play was given there, but it still remains the same.

Then you can run down to Harborton which used to be
Hoffman's Wharf,

But watch when you drive down the Hack's Neck way for
you might hit a fisherman's carf.

And then you must drive through Pennyville, the little
money town -

Another money town was Cashville which you missed on
the long drive down.

And of course you pass through Guinea which goes back
to "de days of de War,"

The capital now is Boston, a place well known near and
far.

And of course you mustn't miss Craddockville, once
known as Turkey Pen,

And you can drive on down through Scarborough's Neck
and come to the very land's end.

You'll want to come back by Davis Wharf to see where
the Glebe Farm lies

And then on up by Lord's Harbor not far from
the Occahonnock's rise.

And then you go on to Belle Haven, "Bell's Oven" it
used to be,

And then you make a jump to the seaside by Coal
Kiln and Hawk's Nest, you see.

You're now on the way to Quinby, but there you will
not stay very long

For you want to head up for Wachapreague where
fish bite good and strong,

And maybe you'll stop for a day's fishing but you
can't stop here very long;

There are other places to visit so you go out
the Locust Mount way,

And then you turn at Locustville and come out the
Melfa way.

From Melfa you head down Highway Thirteen, through
Keller and Painter, too.

And you're back at Belle Haven Siding which once
you've already passed through.

And now you enter Northampton, that County just south of Accomack.

And if you just keep heading south you are always on the right track.

First you come to Exmore but you'd better be slow on the drive,

Everybody seems to be going through and you want to get through alive.

There are various towns you must not miss so you

Give Franktown, Bridgetown, and Johnsontown just a brief view

And then circle back to Nassawadox. Then you come to Weirwood,

And on down you'll see Bird's Nest but don't look for the little bird's nest, it won't do you any good.

Machipongo, Shady Side, the Forks, and the old, old town Eastville,

But you just drive through to Cheriton, which once was Sunnyside,

And then you're down to the town of Cape Charles with its harbor deep and wide.

But you're on the way to Kiptopeke so you just drive through and look

For you're on the way to Kiptopeke which place was first in your book.

And now you're down to Kiptopeke you're entirely on your own;

You can take the ferry across the Bay or you can find your way back home.

As for me, I'll go back by the Seaside road to see a few places you missed.

First I'll go through Townsend, or Town's End if you like it better;

And then I'll go through Capeville though it's not the Cape on the letter.

And of course I'll have to see Oyster but way up in Accomack it's Clam -

We can't leave out the shellfish, they're among the great joys of man.
On the way you'll find Cheapside - how many "sides" there are in Northampton -
And on this seaside you'll find Seaview but on the bayside it's Bayview,
Good old names that have come down to us though once upon a time they were new.
And then when you hit Machipongo you are well up on the northward track,
And you come once again to Nassawadox and now I'm well on the way back -
So I'll just keep on going till I come to the end of the track.
And now you've traveled the Eastern Shore, the Eastern Shore of Virginia, I mean;
Of course there are interesting places that on this trip you haven't seen.
And though "there's many a slip 'tween the cup and the lip"
We'll just have to leave these for another trip.

"And when like her, oh Saki, you shall pass
Among the Guests Star - scattered on the Grass,
And in your joyous errand reach the spot
Where I made One - turn down an empty Glass."

The Rubaiyat

As Division Superintendent of Schools in Accomack County for more than a quarter of a century, Henry A. Wise exemplified *A Virginia Gentleman* not soon to be forgotten by school personnel, pupils and their parents. For many, Virginia History, heavily laden with the past of the Eastern Shore, became an integral part of the course of study in all schools. The experience in public school activity must have crystallized a desire on the part of the author since numerous newspaper clippings were filed, old books were carefully preserved, school records were studied and old court records were copied. Over On The Eastern Shore is written with accuracy and thoroughness, showing always the deep respect the author has for his subject. Historical sketches included should lift our minds and our hearts through an increased understanding of our past, long forgotten or perhaps unknown by many.

—W. Avery Lewis