

OUTSIDE OF A WHALE

THE POSITION IN WHICH A NORTH CAROLINIAN FOUND HIMSELF.

A Whale Hunt on the Carolina Coast and the Exciting Details as Told by Captain Jim Willis.

(Washington Star.)

The pleasure-traveler will now introduce Captain Jim Willis, who will favor the readers of the Star with a fish story. Captain Jim hunts from Morehead City, N. C., where he runs pleasure craft for the accommodation of northern convalescents. At this moment he is leaning against the buffet at the Normandie, and this is what he is saying:

Down yonder where I live we have all sorts of funny denizens of the deep from minnows up to whales, including yachtsmen. I don't propose to stuff you with a trout story, or to say anything to you about the size of a black bass because I am aware that there are a lot of land-lubbers right here in this city who can just about as hard as anybody else in this particular line. I can't tell a yarn with any bigger bass in it than the next fellow. My specialty is the whale. I'd like to bet a hundred dollars to a cent that when a request for a story comes round I can catch a bigger whale than anybody else.

But, throwing all jokes to the four, or even a greater number of the winds of Heaven, I did have an experience with a whale that came near making a Jonah out of me with the casing-up process omitted. One sunny afternoon not very long ago I was sitting in the shade of my own fig-tree and swinging in my own grassy swing. It was one of those days when nature takes an outing.

THIS IS FISH POETRY.

The heavens and the earth were a poem of sunshine, green and blue. A gentle wind, that would not have blown a leaf from the tree, played an idyl on the leaves and branches of the trees, patches of listless clouds formed the dome of space, and the glittering stretch of water answered in sunlight to the sun. The sea was quiet, even unto the ever undulating, restless ground-swell, and in this mighty mirror the shades of blue and white were so close together that they seemed to be one. Each tiny wavelet rippled on the beach directly at my feet, in a lazy, lumpy way, and seemed to say that it was almost too faint to move, and that really had it not been for the eager waters in its rear it would not have come to land. It was one of those days when a man can go to Elysium without the sacrifice of health.

A column of fragrant smoke ascended from my sweet cot pipe, and I felt as though I was the chosen of the Lord. A splash of water was seen to seaward. A jet of the ocean went up and fell back as spray. I saw this, but I was in a daze rather than the real held away. A party of my fisher friends, who lived farther up the beach, came running by, and as they passed they sang out: "There she blows!" This cry woke me up. Once more the jet of water spouted upward from the sea, and down to the pier I rushed. A whale is apt to create a sensation in any seaside community, even though there is no summer guests, because there are always many hundreds of dollars concealed on its person. It is a red-letter event in local annals when a whale comes ashore. The fishermen especially make merry over the arrival. This kind of guests, however, were so few and far between at Morehead that accommodations for them were rather below the standard.

Our recreation facilities in this particular instance were so inadequate that it was long an open question whether that whale would or would not conclude to settle in our town. It was only by luck and through the particular preference of its own that he did so. The town only boasted of two harbor outfits. One was an ancient harpoon-boat that years before had been found wrecked on board the bulk of a South Sea whaler, which had gone on our coast while bound to New Bedford, and the other was a very primitive hand-power harpoon rig. There wasn't a real whale-boat in the town, but four ordinary fishing-boats were manned by as many crews. One carried the harpoon-boat, and one the hand-harpoon outfit. The other two were without any armament, excepting several shot-guns and one or two rifles.

It was almost a hopeless case with us, for if a whale is not hit in the side, he will go down, to come to the surface in a distant part of the sea. When one is struck in the vitals, he spouts or blows blood, and then floats into eternity. We roved off so as to come at the game from different points of the compass. I was in the gun-boat. As we approached the whale it was seen that he was a large and fat one. He took no notice of our coming. When we got within about 100 feet of the monster the harpoon-boat was fired, and the barbed weapon took effect behind the head, and pretty well up on the back. This was painful, but not necessarily a fatal shot. The other

boats turned themselves loose, and made some insertions in the fish.

DECIDED TO FIGHT. Instead of going under, as wounded whales do, he remained on top to fight it out. He heaved his tail and turned the sea into mud, and made such a swell that the good people of Morehead would not have permitted him to pass their port without slowing down. He plunged headlong against one of the boats and stove it so that it would hardly float. Its occupants were knocked overboard. There was a good deal of excitement. The sea round about us was boiling, the whale was red hot with rage, the men were shouting, the boat guns were popping. We could see that the beach away off was fringed with the population of the town, and we knew that all our movements were being watched anxiously through

We had to fight. There was no time to crawlfish or to backwater. The fish next hurled himself against the boat in which I was, and it yielded to his wishes and got smashed. It was raised a considerable distance in the air, and when it came down I was not in the water? Not much I wasn't. I was on that whale's back just about his head, and holding on to that harpoon with both hands.

DIFFERENTLY OCCUPIED.

Some of my friends were floundering in the aqueous line and some were supporting themselves by clutching the gunwales. Some had climbed into the other boat, thus overloading it and causing it to lose its equilibrium. The whale, however, was not being heeded as copiously as though participating in an athletic club glove contest. He was getting the same care as a pop-gun. He was being poked and prodded in more ways than a dozen. Above all the roar and riot it seemed to me as though we could hear the shout when it would be a million. I felt certain that I could hear the dulcet tones of my beloved Hannah.

The line which had connected the harpoon and the boat had parted and about 100 feet of manilla hawser squirmed and wriggled snake-like around in the seething sea. The whale didn't seem to care for the hawser, but he continued his attention upon the two remaining boats. There wasn't any time to think of this. The hand harpoon had been shoved into his last. A column of blood was being squirted skyward and the scarlet floor fell over me, dyeing me a sorry hue. A few feeble waves were about my head, and my side announced that the fish was dead. The rope that floated from my harpoon was picked up and made fast to the boat in which the whale and his rider were towed to shore. Our catch was lashed alongside the pier, and the next day we went to work at it. The whale was 34 inches long, and the proceeds from the sales of his oil, bones and other valuables were \$150. I will never forget my experience with that whale off Morehead City, N. C.

WOMEN ARE NOT VINES.

Instead of Clinging They Are Often the Real Leaders.

The figure of woman as the clinging vine has been altogether overworked, says the Christian Register. It may be pertinent in individual cases, but it does not represent accurately the relation which woman sustains to men in this country or in many others. Among the laboring classes the world over the women do as much work as the men, and

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"A BRIGHT HOME MAKES A MERRY HEART." JOY TRAVELS ALONG WITH SAPOLIO

MONEY TO LEND.

Persons desiring to borrow money are invited to call on THE OLD DOMINION BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, 823 east Main street, Chamber of Commerce Building. Loans are made on accommodating terms as to time, in amounts to suit, and at reasonable rates. Loans on real estate for the purpose of lifting mortgages, for repairs, or for the building or purchase of houses are our specialty.

Call, or address OLD DOMINION BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, Ninth and Main streets, Richmond, Va. J. TAYLOR ELLYSON, President; CARLTON MCCARTHY, Secretary and Treasurer. J. T. ELLYSON, JOHN S. ELLETT, JOHN B. PURELL, N. V. RANDOLPH, and FRANK T. SUTTON, Directors.

perhaps on the whole a good deal more. They do not need to cling to their husbands or brothers to do it, and in "higher walks" of life, if we accept conventional distinctions as true ones, it is men who appear frequently as the clinging vines, supported by a trellis in the shape of a wife.

A French writer, in speaking of Parisian women, says: "What is particular distinguishes the Parisian woman from other women is her good humor and clear head. She knows how to use her gifts no less in society than in business, and she is the real leader and director of the affairs which carry the husband's name."

"While monsieur travels about giving orders, taking purchases, cashing checks, visiting factories, etc., madam sits in the parlor and holds all the threads of the business in her hand. She has often that the husband, and his firmness and courage united with feminine tact and quick perception. At home, as mother and wife, she shows the same admirable qualities. The same praise might be awarded to many American women, though Americans have not shown their good sense to the same extent as Frenchmen in taking their wives into business confidence."

Wishes. (Atlanta Constitution.) Boy, with breeches rolled knee-high, Face of healthy brown; "Wish I was a millionaire, Kid!" round the town!

Millionaire, in carriage fine—Biggest city ranch; "Wish I was a barefoot boy 'Wadlin' in a branch!"

The Kind of medicine you need is the old reliable tonic and blood-purifier, AYER'S SARSAPARILLA. It can have no substitute. Cures others, will cure you.

Advertisement for Ayer's Sarsaparilla, featuring a portrait of a man and the text: 'THE BEST \$3. SHOE IN THE WORLD'.

will cure you.

[W.F.S.&W.]

Advertisement for Benson's Porous Plasters, featuring a portrait of a man and the text: 'Benson's Porous Plasters. Relieve Instantly, and cure quicker than any other Porous Plaster.'

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THE HUMOR, TRAGEDY, AND EMBARRASMENTS OF HUMAN LIFE

are illustrated in these sketchy pen-drawings after three of the paintings reproduced in "FAMOUS PAINTINGS OF THE WORLD," which are obtainable exclusively by readers of THIS PAPER.

TO those who have travelled abroad and visited the galleries and exhibitions of European capitals, the identity of these well-known paintings will be recognized:

"THE RIVALS," by Deby Sadler;

"SCOTLAND FOREVER," by Elizabeth Thompson (now Lady Butler), and

"FIRST-CLASS" Railway Carriage, by C. Hildebrand.

"FAMOUS PAINTINGS OF THE WORLD"

consists of THREE HUNDRED AND TWENTY pictures, reproductions of paintings by the most celebrated artists of Europe and America—many of them selected to represent the artist's country in the World's Columbian Exposition Fine Arts Department, and loaned for the purpose by the connoisseurs and Royal and National Galleries who own them—reproduced in this work

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE ARTISTS and the authorities. An UNRIVALLED COLLECTION of UNSUBPASSED MERIT. Issued in Twenty Portfolios, which are offered at a merely nominal cost to the readers of THE DISPATCH ONLY.

By Julius Straus & Son, Agents, 922 East Main Street, Richmond, Va.

PRICES REDUCED. IN STORE AND FOR SALE, 300 bushels Fancy Early Rose Potatoes, 500 bushels Table Burbank. Please call and examine my stock before buying. 1208 east Cary street. L. POWERS, Agent.

HEALTH RESORTS. HOT SPRINGS, BATH COUNTY, VIRGINIA. Baths will be given in "THE VIRGINIA" during the winter. A massage will be in attendance. Send for illustrated circular to S. P. LATHROP & CO., Marshall and Sixteenth streets, (Richmond) Va.

Subscribed and sworn to by the above-named officers on January 26, 1894, before H. D. Gamble, Notary Public, York City, Canada.

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Advertisement for Gold Dust Washing Powder, featuring a woman's face and the text: 'A Woman's Heart. It is always light when her home is clean and bright. Gold Dust Washing Powder. Makes everything clean and bright. The floors, the doors, the pots and pans, the silver ware, and dishes have an entirely different aspect when this modern labor-saver is used. It is the most popular cleaner, at the most popular price. Ask the grocer for it. The N. K. Fairbank Company, CHICAGO, St. Louis, New York, Philadelphia, Boston.'

Advertisement for W. L. Douglas \$3 Shoe, featuring a shoe and the text: 'The Best Shoes for the Least Money. W. L. DOUGLAS \$3 SHOE GENUINE \$3.50 and \$3.00 Dress Shoe. Special custom work, costing from \$3.00 to \$3.50. Police Shoe, 3 Soles. Best Working Shoe. \$2.50, and \$2 Shoes, \$2.00, and \$1.75 School Shoes. Are the best for service. LADIES' \$3, \$2.50 \$2, \$1.75. Best Dongola, with Perfect Grip. Unsurpassed in the world. All styles. Insured upon having W. L. Douglas shoes. Name and price stamped on bottom. Brockton, Mass. THIS IS THE BEST \$3. SHOE IN THE WORLD. ALL THE LATEST STYLES. FOR SALE BY J. R. GOODE & CO., 1501 Main street. W. A. SORG & CO., 326 east Broad street.'

INSURANCE STATEMENTS.

(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA.)

BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1893, OF THE CONDITION AND AFFAIRS OF THE BRITISH AMERICA ASSURANCE COMPANY, OF TORONTO, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA, MADE THE 21st DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1894, IN PURSUANCE OF THE LAWS OF VIRGINIA.

President—GEORGE A. COE, Vice-President—J. J. KENNY, Secretary—P. H. SIBBS, Principal Office—118 and 20 FRONT STREET, EAST, TORONTO, CANADA. Incorporated or Incorporated—FEBRUARY 13, 1853. Commenced business—JUNE 19, 1853.

I. CAPITAL.

Deposit capital in United States..... \$ 200,000 00

II. ASSETS.

Loans on mortgages duly recorded and being the first liens on the fee simple upon which not more than one year's interest is due..... \$ 60,000 00

ACCOUNT OF BONDS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND OF OTHER STATES, AND ALSO OF BONDS OF INCORPORATED CITIES IN THIS STATE, AND OF OTHER BONDS AND STOCKS, OWNED ABSOLUTELY BY THE COMPANY.

United States bonds, 1894, 4 per cent., at 113..... \$27,500 00 \$310,750 00

United States bonds, 1890, 6 per cent., at 104..... 30,000 00 31,200 00

New York and West Shore first mortgage bonds, 5 per cent., at 100..... 50,000 00 50,000 00

Ohio State bonds, 1890, 3 per cent., at 105..... 100,000 00 105,000 00

Georgia State bonds, 1890, 4 per cent., at 100..... 25,000 00 25,000 00

City of Richmond (Va.) bonds, 1894, 4 per cent., at 100..... 25,000 00 25,000 00

City of Toronto (Canada) bonds, 1901, 4 per cent., at 100..... 50,125 00 50,125 00

City of London (Canada) bonds, 1916, 4 per cent., at 100..... 135,000 00 135,000 00

City of Toronto (Canada) bonds, 1901, 4 per cent., at 100..... 15,000 00 15,000 00

Three, 1895, 4 1/2 per cent., at 100..... 12,000 00 12,000 00

Dominion of Canada stock, 1903, 4 per cent., at 104 1/2..... 12,000 00 12,540 00

Total par and market value (carried out at market value)..... \$77,125 00 \$803,615 00

Cash belonging to the company deposited in bank..... 15,010 04

Interest due and accrued on bonds not included in market value..... 5,532 50

Gross premiums (as written in the policies, in course of collection, not more than three months due)..... 219,415 81

Bills receivable for fire, marine, and inland risks..... 4,143 32

Amount of premiums unpaid on policies which have been issued more than three months..... 11,548 31

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF ALL THE ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, STATED AT THEIR ACTUAL VALUE..... \$1,108,926 87

III. LIABILITIES.

Gross claims for advanced and unpaid losses and to become due..... \$ 39,755 06

Interest due and accrued on unpaid losses, in suspension, including all reported and supposed losses..... 97,117 01

Losses reported, including interest, costs, and other expenses thereon..... 7,259 29

Total gross amount of claims for losses..... \$144,097 07

Deficit reinsurance thereon..... 11,433 43

Net amount of unpaid losses..... \$ 132,663 64

Gross premiums received and in course of date, including interest premiums on perpetual fire risks, \$960,800.99; unearned premiums on annual policies, \$1,749,497.77; unearned premiums on marine and inland risks, \$330,425.48

Gross premiums received and receivable upon all unexpired fire risks, running more than one year from date of policy, \$310,749.77; unearned premiums (no rate) on fire, marine, and inland risks, \$170,919.92

Gross premiums including both cash and bills received and receivable upon all unexpired marine navigation risks, \$36,740.54; unearned premiums (no rate) on marine and inland risks, \$18,120 12

Total unearned premiums as computed above carried out..... 519,462 52

All other demands against the company, accounts and contingent, due and to become due, adjusted and contested—viz: Commission, brokerage, and other charges due and to become due to agents and brokers, on premiums paid and in course of collection, \$38,818.77; return premiums, \$16,091.80; reinsurance, \$7,815.58..... 58,420 94

Total amount of all liabilities, except capital stock and net surplus..... \$ 710,502 40

Surplus beyond capital and all other liabilities..... 398,574 47

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF ALL LIABILITIES, INCLUDING PAID-UP CAPITAL STOCK, AND NET SURPLUS..... \$1,108,926 87

IV. RECEIPTS DURING THE YEAR.

Gross premiums and bills unpaid at close of last year..... \$ 132,589 51 \$ 3,690 74

Deficit amount of same not collected..... 289 70

Net collected..... \$ 132,299 75 \$ 3,690 74

Gross premiums on risks written and renewed during the year..... 1,115,395 23 137,955 35

Total..... \$1,247,695 98 \$141,646 09

Deduct gross premiums and bills in course of collection at this date..... 200,448 81 15,458 83

Entire premiums collected during the year..... \$1,038,157 17 \$126,187 26

Deduct reinsurance, rebates, discounts, and return premiums..... 207,100 40 19,263 59

Net cash actually received for premiums carried out..... \$ 831,056 77 \$106,923 67

Received for interest and dividends on stocks and bonds, collateral loans, and from all other sources..... 26,350 70

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF RECEIPTS ACTUALLY RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR IN CASH..... \$ 907,717 14

V. DISBURSEMENTS DURING THE YEAR.

Gross amount actually paid for losses (including \$68,929.23 losses occurring in previous years)..... \$336,040 85 \$90,787 40

Deduct all amounts actually received for salvage upon that loss (in part of previous years) \$21,704.87, and all amounts actually received for reimbursement in other companies, \$3,734.66—total..... 25,439 53