

ROANOKE THE MAGIC CITY.

The Story of Its Growth Boiled Down.

What Roanoke Has Done and What She Is Still Doing--Notwithstanding the Close Money Market \$10,000,000 in Improvements Already in Sight--The Population, Industries and Advantages of the Wonder of the Valley.

Roanoke has a population of over 23,000. Its citizens are from nearly every State in the Union. Eight years ago it had 600 people. Its growth at present is on a more solid basis and more rapid than ever before in its history.

Roanoke is located at the junction of the Shenandoah and Roanoke valleys. Its altitude is 907 feet and it is surrounded by a rich agricultural and mineral country.

Roanoke is distant just eight hours' ride from Washington and Norfolk, nine from Baltimore, twelve from Philadelphia, and fourteen from New York. It is situated at the junction of the Shenandoah Valley and Norfolk and Western railroads, both trunk lines, and is easily reached from any section of the country.

The Roanoke and Southern railroad is now being built to this place from Winston, N. C., and will open up the trade of the Carolinas to this section next fall. The Valley branch of the Baltimore and Ohio runs to Lexington, forty miles distant, and a road filling the connecting link will be constructed to Roanoke in a short time.

The growth of the city dates from 1882, when the headquarters of the Norfolk and Western were removed here from Lynchburg, the Shenandoah Valley road was completed, and the Roanoke Machine Works, employing at present 1,700 hands, was established. Since then millions of dollars have flowed into the city in the establishment of manufactures and other business enterprises.

Coal and iron and the rich agricultural lands of the section have contributed to the growth.

Roanoke has sixty-five miles of streets and eight miles of street railway inside the corporate limits. A dummy line extends to Vinton, a distance of two miles east, and to Salem, six miles west. Throughout the city electricity, in a short time, will take the place of horses as motive power.

The water works are sufficient to furnish a city of 50,000 inhabitants. The supply comes from a pure, cold spring that gushes from the side of Mill Mountain, and is without equal in any city in the country. It is undoubtedly a specific for many forms of kidney disease.

Light is furnished by the Gas Company and the Electric Light and Motor Power Company.

The property valuation, according to the assessment of this year, is nearly \$9,000,000, besides the railroad property and the Roanoke Machine Works. The increase in the value of realty was about \$5,000,000 over the previous assessment of four years ago; but present values are many millions in excess of those given.

There are four fine hotels--Hotel Roanoke, the Ponce de Leon, the Continental, and Hotel Felix--besides a number of smaller ones. All of them are crowded and constantly turning away guests.

Roanoke is well supplied with BANKING FACILITIES.

The First National Bank has a capital of \$100,000; the National Exchange Bank a capital of \$100,000; the Citizens' National Bank a capital of \$100,000; the Commercial National Bank a capital of \$100,000; the Roanoke Trust, Loan and Safe Deposit Company a capital of \$250,000; the Traders' Loan, Trust and Deposit Company a capital of \$100,000; the Fidelity Loan and Trust Company a capital of \$200,000; and several private banking concerns transact a large financial business.

The Roanoke Machine Works, with a capital of \$5,000,000, pays out \$65,000 per month in wages to employes. About \$5,000,000 a year is paid in the city for wages.

Some of the important MANUFACTURING PLANTS are as follows:

Table listing manufacturing plants and their values: Roanoke Machine Works (\$5,000,000), West End Iron Co. (500,000), Crozer Steel and Iron Co. (500,000), American Bridge Works (200,000), Riffe's Hydraulic Engine Works (50,000), Roanoke Canning Factory (50,000), Roanoke Rolling Mills (200,000), Roanoke Spike Factory (50,000), Roanoke Iron Co. (consisting of a 200-ton Furnace, Muck Bar Mill and Plate Mill) (500,000), Roanoke Brewery (75,000), Bridgewater Carriage Company of Roanoke (75,000), Gambill Flouring Mill Co. (50,000), Roanoke Milling Company (25,000), Roanoke Gas and Water Co. (250,000), Roanoke Electric Light Co. (50,000), P. L. Terry Milling Co. (25,000), Diamond Ice Co. (55,000), Roanoke Ice Co. (35,000), West End Brick and Tile Works (20,000), Adams Bros. & Payne Brick Co. (25,000), Five planing mills (100,000), Two tobacco factories (50,000), Two cigar factories (5,000), One mattress factory (25,000), Cold storage company (50,000), Norwich Lock Manufacturing Co. (350,000), Duvall Engine Works (60,000), Virginia Blanket Mills Co. (50,000), Roanoke Glass Factory (40,000).

DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES. Some of the most important companies organized for the development of Roanoke and this section are:

Table listing development companies and their values: Roanoke Development Co. (\$1,100,000), Virginia Development Co. (5,000,000), Buena Vista Land Co. (300,000), 112 Land Companies (7,000,000), Bucklen's Arnica Salve (The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Budwell, Christian & Barbee, Roanoke, Va.)

western Golconda, and are coming monthly, weekly, almost daily.

COMPANIES ORGANIZED IN 1890. During 1890 132 companies were organized in Roanoke, with an aggregate minimum capital of \$10,246,300. These companies are briefly summarized below:

- Seventy-five land and real estate investment companies, with an aggregate capital of \$5,864,300.
Two cigarette machine companies, aggregate capital of \$400,000.
One grocery and milling company, capital \$75,000.
One coupling company, capital \$100,000.
One slicer manufacturing company, \$30,000.
One paper bag manufacturing company, \$100,000.
Five marble companies with an aggregate capital of \$220,000.
One bridge and iron company, authorized capital, \$500,000.
Two power companies, aggregate capital, \$25,000.
Two paving companies, \$20,000.
One street railway company, \$15,000.
One engine company, \$150,000.
One cold storage company, \$50,000.
Two banking companies, \$150,000.
Four loan, trust and finance companies, \$200,000.
Academy of Music Company, \$150,000.
One steam generator company, \$250,000.
One drug company, \$4,500.
Three oil companies, \$92,000.
One brewing company, \$75,000.
Five coal, coke and iron companies, \$740,000.
Ten building companies, with capital aggregating \$4,330,000.

For the year 1890 the charter books show that forty-nine charters were granted, with an aggregate minimum capital of \$1,731,250.

The increase in the number of charters in 1890 over 1889 will be seen to be eighty-three, and the increase in the minimum capital \$8,525,050.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS. The real estate transactions last year amounted to \$17,067,959 from 5,103 transfers. For 1889 the real estate transactions amounted to about \$7,000,000 from about 3,000 real estate transfers, so that the increase in Roanoke's real estate transfers during 1890 over 1889 was approximately \$10,000,000, and the increase in the number of deeds, 2,000.

The building operations in Roanoke in 1890 amounted to over \$2,000,000. The progress of Roanoke in 1890 may be summarized as follows:

Table summarizing building progress in 1890: In buildings (\$2,000,000), Real estate transactions (\$17,000,000), Companies organized (11,000,000), Increase in realty values according to assessment on taxation (5,000,000), Total (\$35,000,000). Population increased 6,000. Improvements in sight for 1891 are summarized as follows: New buildings (\$3,000,000), New industries secured (1,000,000), Improvement of industries established and construction of industries formerly secured (300,000), City improvements (500,000), Railroad improvements (3,000,000), Land companies organized (1,200,000), Total (\$10,000,000).

There are four public schools in the city--three for whites, with eighteen teachers, and one colored school, with five teachers.

Public school buildings to cost \$75,000 will be erected this year. Congress has appropriated \$75,000 for the erection of a public postoffice building.

Roanoke will soon be a city of churches. The Southern Methodists, Presbyterians and Catholics all have handsome brick houses of worship. The Methodist Episcopal and Christians have neat churches.

The Baptists are erecting two fine brick churches, one to cost \$18,000 and the other \$25,000. The Lutherans are erecting a magnificent stone church to cost not less than \$50,000. The Episcopalians are erecting a \$40,000 stone church and rectory. The Southern Methodists will erect this year one \$60,000 church, one to cost \$13,000, and one neat frame structure. The German Reformed Church will erect a house of worship, and the Presbyterians will build a \$10,000 church.

Roanoke has a well organized fire department of 150 members. The city has recently awarded the contract for the Gamewell fire alarm telegraph. The department now has one fine building and another is soon to be erected. All of the three companies are supplied with modern equipments.

Special inducements are offered parties desiring to build residences on Crystal Spring property. A \$100 reduction will be made on a lot when house costing not less than \$1,500 is completed, or the company will lend \$500 to parties who will build at once.

Employees for the Hardware Plant. The Shelf Hardware Company is actively pushing toward an early erection of its plant in Roanoke. As an earnest of this THE TIMES is authorized to receive applications for employment from brass molders, bench molders, polishers, buffers, machinists and lock fitters. These applications should give references and state previous experience. In some branches of the industry raw employes may become experts in a few weeks or months, and earn large wages as piece workmen. Address all applications to "Hardware," care THE ROANOKE TIMES.

Why pay thousands of dollars for a residence lot when you can get one in Crystal Spring for \$400? mays-1m

Summer is Coming. Spring is here and summer is approaching. Prepare to keep cool by having WILKINSON & LALLEMAND, Salem, Va., make you an awning for your store or residence. april-2m.

Awning! Awning!! If you want an awning for your store front store or windows drop us a postal and we will come up and make estimates for you. WILKINSON & LALLEMAND, Salem, Va. april-2m

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Budwell, Christian & Barbee, Roanoke, Va. tu,th,sat

HOW A CONGRESS DIES.

The Last Days of the Moribund Fifty-First Congress.

Scenes in the Senate and House--Some Are Ridiculous and Others Slightly Dramatic--Speaker Reed's Last Remark to His Colleagues.

[Special Washington Correspondence.]

The last week of the short session of congress is always a busy season. Everybody is rushing and hurrying, from the president down to the watchmen and messengers in the executive departments, as well as the statesmen and their helpers on Capitol Hill. The president is besieged and bored every day and every hour by those anxious patriots who want their names sent to the senate for confirmation before congress adjourns. He reads every line of every bill which is passed, and scans minutely each appropriation bill before signing his name to it, lest thereby he may officially sanction something which does not meet with his entire approval. The gentlemen who procure and facilitate legislation, commonly known and spoken of as lobbyists, take the time of the president to explain the bright side of their schemes to him, in order that he may not be tempted to veto the measures upon which they have spent so much time and talent. In addition to these multifarious calls upon his time, the president has held his cabinet meetings regularly, and managed to take little outdoor walks in the evenings. But he has been one of the hardest worked men in this or any country for several days past.

Big Tom Reed has been an object of interest to the sight-seers who have been here in great numbers. They all go to the capitol, of course, as that great structure is the center of popular attraction day and night during the last week. The wide and long corridors have been packed almost to suffocation, while the galleries have been unwholesomely close and uncomfortable. The crowds have been jostling each other, the parties with little claims pending being most oblivious of the rights and pleasures of others. They have driven their representatives and senators almost to desperation by frantic appeals to have their cases made special, a request which no one man can grant, as it takes unanimous consent in the house to pass bills when congress is about to expire. There are upwards of seven thousand private bills dying on the house calendar and about three thousand of the claimants have been in the city urging their bills upon their representatives, asking them to accomplish the impossible. These members, in turn, have laid siege to the speaker, so that the list before him, containing the names of the congressmen who want to catch the speaker's eye and be recognized is indeed a formidable list. The anxious constituents leave Washington bitterly denouncing their congressmen, and the congressmen are just as busy denouncing Speaker Reed, because he could not or would not recognize them while they stood upon the floor shouting "Mr. Speaker" until their throats almost split, while the stained glass in the great ceiling cracked with their reverberations of resonant wrath. For nearly twenty-four hours the speaker stood upon his feet hammering upon the desk before him with a heavy mallet, and repeating again and again: "The house will be in order;" but the house never has been in order for a single minute. Chairmen of committees have been rushing to and fro on the floor of the house, pages have been running their spare little legs almost off of them, the reading clerks have been reading in a babel of confusion; and all these things have afforded amusement and entertainment for the galleries. Ladies dressed to death in the best of fabrics, with no business whatever save to see and maybe be seen, have compelled their senators to come out of their comfortable quarters, escort them to the private galleries and squeeze them inside of the doors to the utter ruin of their dresses, as well as to the discomfort and anger of all other ladies already there. One great big woman with a claim had little Senator

is wonderfully if not fearfully made. Each one of them carries a fan which is better and more costly than the one which is being waved by the woman beside her. The floor is green carpeted, the walls white and gilded, the galleries rising like rows of beds from the agricultural department or the botanical gardens, and crowning the scene with kaleidoscopic effects.

Vice-President Morton is tired, but alert and attending to business. Occasionally, very seldom though, he taps lightly with his miniature gavel, and demands "order in the senate." Speaker Reed has a gavel with a handle a foot long and a hammer big as Sullivan's fist. The vice-president has a little bit of ivory, no bigger than your thumb, and he keeps order with that pigmy hammer. If the dear people in the galleries would not gabble so much there would always be order in the senate.

Let us go over to the house. We can not descend by the elevator, for it is crowded to suffocation, and there are hundreds of people watching for it on each floor from basement to roof. It is no easy task, even to crowd our way down the great stairway. Commodore Perry, in the famous painting of the Battle of Lake Erie, seems to look down at us and wink his sympathy for our condition. There is a crowd before Senator Allison's committee room, all of them anxious for the old flag and an appropriation--particularly the appropriation. But no more bills of that nature will be passed. There is the remnant of the sugar lobby, standing near Senator Morrill's committee room, but the finance committee will accomplish no more during this congress. Past the supreme court room, across the rotunda, squeezing through the portals we finally get into the house gallery and find our place in the press gallery occupied by some visiting newspaper man; so we will stand and rest our feet. Only a few hours are left for this congress is fast dying and the fifty-second congress will be born; but Mr. Richardson and Mr. Enloe are using these precious moments lecturing the speaker. Gen. Grosvenor, of Ohio, is trying to be heard, and Mr. McKinley is patiently awaiting an opportunity to say something, as soon as the din is lulled for a moment. Honest Joe Cannon is having his last wrangle with Mr. Springer, and they are shouting across the aisles at each other. Bluff Ben Butterworth is shaking his fist and bobbing his head, saying something, but even his powerful voice can not be heard. He will soon be out of congress and running a world's fair. The only voice which cuts through all the murky chaos of disorder is the rasping, penetrating resonance of Tom Reed's declaration that "The house will be in order;" and it is, at last. It is now high noon, and the voices cease, as Mr. Reed declares "this house adjourned sine die."



A FAIR CLAIMANT ARGUING WITH SENATOR SPOONER.

Spooner by the arm and read him an awfully long lecture about some bill or other which had not been reported from the committee on claims, of which Senator Spooner is chairman. She tried to get a chance also at Senator Hiseock, but the big New Yorker elbowed his way through the crowd like a Broadway policeman and was soon safe inside the sacred senate portals.

The electric light shining from the summit of the dome has been the signal to inform the contiguous country that congress was holding night sessions. That light can be seen from the Blue Ridge mountains, with a field glass, and is visible to the naked eye as far away as Mount Vernon. Everybody in the city sees not only the light in the dome, but the thousands of other lights glistening in the gloom of night, and Pennsylvania avenue is constantly crowded with people going to and coming from the capitol. Business is the motive power, and the search for the mighty dollar supplies energy for these people; but, there

is something else going on besides bustness, during these bustling days and nights. A great many people are too young to know anything of legislation; but, they all do know that in the wide deep windows, in the great committee room doors, on the stairs leading to the dome, in the shadows off statuary hall, and out upon the grand staircases, there are numerous places just suited to man and maid, where hands may be close clasped, and occasionally lips touched hastily, and nobody the wiser for the harmless little flirtations. Many an engagement has been entered into within the shadows of the capitol, and at times when the money god seems to be controlling the entire universe. Cupid alone is superior to him and indifferent to his imperial power.

The last night in the senate is always brilliant and gloomy by contrast. Upon the floor of the great chamber everything is somber and dignified. The clerks read in monotone and the senators speak with wearisome monody and deliberate care. The effect, so far as the floor is concerned, is somnolent in the extreme, and the wonder is that the old statesmen can keep themselves awake. But the galleries are ablaze with colors. No less than eight hundred ladies are there, and each one of them wears a hat or bonnet the like of which no other woman ever saw or wore. Each one of them wears a dress which



THE VICE PRESIDENT CALLING THE SENATE TO ORDER.

is wonderfully if not fearfully made. Each one of them carries a fan which is better and more costly than the one which is being waved by the woman beside her. The floor is green carpeted, the walls white and gilded, the galleries rising like rows of beds from the agricultural department or the botanical gardens, and crowning the scene with kaleidoscopic effects.

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The Harmattan or Withering Wind. The name of harmattan has been given a periodical wind which blows from the interior of Africa towards the Atlantic ocean during the three months of December, January and February. It sets in with a fog or dry haze which sometimes conceals the sun for whole weeks together. Every plant, bit of grass and leaf in its course is withered as though it had been seared by heat from a furnace; often within an hour after it begins to blow green grass is dry enough to burn like paper. Even the hardened natives lose all of the skin on exposed parts during the prevalence of this withering wind.

The Modern Penitent. Bobby--Popper, what is this sack cloth that folks wear at their prayers? Popper--Ask your mother. I think she prefers seal plush.--Puck.

Proud Parent--And do you really think baby is like his father? Visitor--Yes. He is bald and has a red face.--West Shore.

RACING. SPRING RACES, -AT THE- LAKE AND DRIVING PARK, ROANOKE, VA., June 3, 4 and 5 PROGRAMME, WEDNESDAY, June 3, 1891.

Race I. Running, Hotel Stakes. Five-eighths of a mile dash. Purse \$125. \$85 to first; \$40 to second.

Race II. Trotting, Roadster Race, to wagons. Purse one hundred dollars. Sixty dollars to first; twenty-five dollars to second; fifteen dollars to third. Mile heats, two in three. Only horses owned in Roanoke county since January 1, 1891, and have been used exclusively as road horses are eligible to start. Entries close at 6 p. m. day before race.

Race III. Running, Mile dash. Purse one hundred and fifty dollars. One hundred dollars to first; fifty dollars to second.

Thursday, June 4, '91.

Race I. Running, 1/4 mile dash. Purse one hundred and fifty dollars. One hundred dollars to first; fifty dollars to second.

Race II. Trotting, 2:45 class. Purse two hundred dollars. One hundred and thirty dollars to first; fifty dollars to second; twenty dollars to third.

Race III. Merchants' Stakes, 1 1/4-mile dash. Purse two hundred dollars. One hundred and twenty-five dollars to first; fifty dollars to second; twenty-five dollars to third.

Race IV. Running, 1/2-mile heats, best two in three, for cold-blooded horses that have never been entered in a race under Jockey Club rules. Purse fifty dollars. Thirty dollars to first; fifteen dollars to second; five dollars to third.

Friday June 5, 1891.

Race I. Running, 3/8-mile dash. Purse one hundred and fifty dollars. One hundred dollars to first; fifty dollars to second.

Race II. Running, 1/2-mile heats. Purse one hundred and twenty-five dollars. Seventy-five dollars to first; thirty-five dollars to second; fifteen dollars to third.

Race III. Running, Virginia Stakes, 1 1/4-mile dash. Purse one hundred and seventy-five dollars. One hundred and twenty-five dollars to first; fifty dollars to second.

Race IV. Trotting, free-for-all. Purse three hundred dollars. Two hundred dollars to first; seventy dollars to second; thirty dollars to third.

Note--entries for 2:45 class, 1/2-mile heats and free-for-all races will close at 6 o'clock p. m., Tuesday, June 2, 1891.

HENRY DAVIN, President. GEO. C. McCAHAN, Secretary. Executive Committee--J. H. Wingate, J. C. Rawn, Dr. Leigh Hunt.

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direct.

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past favors and soliciting a

continuance,

I am, very truly

D. F. GEYER,

The Tailor.

THE ROANOKE DEVELOPMENT COM-

PANY.

Another of the valuable industries secured by the Roanoke Development Company is the Virginia Blanket Mills, manufacturers of woolen blankets of all grades, spinners of yarn, and scourers and sorters of wool. These mills will secure the pick of the fleeces of Southwest Virginia, where the sheep-raising industry is developing more rapidly and more profitably than in any other part of the United States. Manufacturers of fine cloths should seize the opportunity to locate in the midst of a wool-raising country and close to their yarn supplies. For further information address,

ARTHRINGTON GILPIN,

General Manager Roanoke Development Company, Roanoke, Va.



It aids digestion and clears the complexion. For sale by all prominent druggists. apr29-3m

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