MARVELOUS
ARY of CAPTAIN
JOHN SMITH late
President of his
Maiesties Colony
of Virginia

John Smith
his Arms
The Marvelous Diary

of Captain John Smith
late President of His
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of Virginia

Recently Discovered
at Hotel Chamberlin
Ould Poynt Comfort
Virginia
These are the Lines that show thy Face, but those
That show thy Grace and Glory brighter bee:
Thy Faire Discoveries and Fowle Overthrowes
Of Salvagers, much Civillized by the
Best shew thy Spirit and to it Glory Wyn
So, thou art Brasse without but Golde within.

In the confusion into which my mind had fallen during the course
of events herein stated, it seemeth best to me
to set down in my Diarie the record thereof, truly pictured by mine own
hand.
hand, lest mine enemies charge the remarkable experiences which have befallen me to the mere extravagance of traueller's tales, as they have done aforesette to my greate cost.

I, Captaine John Smith, sometime head of the fighting forces in His Most Gracious Majestie's colony of Virginia, and later President thereof, suddenly find myself transported bodily into the Twentieth Centurie and in the midst of a civilization not wotted of in the rvde bvt stirring times which existed in this same faire Virginia some three hundred years ago, and in which I may say that I took no small part.

T had been noised about for some time in the realm of spirits, where-in I now dwell, that such vast changes had taken place in the three hundred years since I landed in the faire domain of
Virginia, that the governor of the province had determined to celebrate with great acclaim and much valiant show of the arts both of Warre and Peace the three hundredth anniversary of our landing. It may be well conceived by mortals that the celebration of this event, fraught with so much of honor, could not fail to be of great moment to me, even though so many years have elapsed since I departed from those stirring scenes of strife and discovery. Hence I determined to revisit that land of faire Virginia, wherein I had gained such well deserved renown and fame, hoping that some trace might be had of the scenes which were so vividly connected with my soldier days. With this determination did I set forth and of a sudden found myself transported, in a semblance of my bodily presence, to these shores, familiar, yet unfamiliar to mine eyes. I know not for what period this embodiment may endure, hence
hence I was moved me to revisit with what speed I might the scenes in which my various adventures took place. My experiences I have set down at length, for the confounding of mine enemies, who have not hesitated to declare an invention of mine own even the storie of my escape from death at the hands of Salvages through the intervention of Pocahontas, the daughter of Chief Powhatan, which is set down at length in my "General Historie of Virginia."
RULIE the changes which have taken place in this erstwhile wilderness since my exploration of it in 1609 passes all belief. Here, at Old Poynt Comfort, named by Captaine Nuport for its safe harbouer in times of storm and stress, is located mine inn, a stately mansion the like of which His Most Gracious Majestie King James might gladlie have inhabited, and possessed of divers most strange and wondrovs comforts and conueniencies unknown to that most wise and gentle Sovreign.

HERE is now located a Fort, unlike in all respects to that Fort Algernon, which once stroue to protect the settlers of this delightsome region. Yea,
EA, and here be gathered manie mightie ships of Warre, such as mine eyes have never before beholden.

The waters of the Bay are thronged with craft, so strange and wonderful to my sight that I would fain gaze

my fill were I not reminded that my time may, indeed, be short. Manie of these uessels are propelled by an agencie
called steam, so strange and mysterious of origin that for aught I can aver to the contrarie the Black Art may be in it all. Euen the vessels which depend vpon the agencie of the winds of Heauen are so altered in form and so greatlie enlarged in size that I can bvt mvse vpon the wonder of it and wish that svch ships might have brought to His Majestie’s staruing colonists the needed svpplies for the lack of which so manie perished in the black winters of 1609 and 1610.
Fmine innc, yelept Hotel Chamberlin, a vast and symptvovs building, from which the eye may view the blue waters of the Bay. I hesitate to set forth the truth at length in these pages, lest belief be impossible to those to whom it is my purpose to show them. And yet with longer stay both my interest and wonder so increase, that at risk of disbelief, I must discourse of its wonders.

It is of proportions so vast that even the palace of His Most Gracious Majestie would seem small in comparison, and at every hand such comforts and luxuries as could not be unworthy to
euen goode Queene Anne herself. Vast corridors and rooms stretch ovt on euerie hand; porches, extended, are in Summer opened to the cooling breezes which euer sweep ouer the waters of the Roads, and which in Winter are encloased in glass, wherein one may enjoy the sights of vessels, both of Warre and Peace, which are continvally passing to and fro, or ride at anchor in the peaceful waters which proued so welcome to vs after ovr tempestvous voyages in 1607. This was, indeed, a Poynt of Comfort to vs who braued the then vnown seas, and a Godlie Providence would seem to have directed ovr covrse to the fairest spot on all this shore: for to this day,
day, great throngs come to this vast Inn for refreshment both of mind and bodie, and in all this faire land there is no spot wherein greater advantage of climate and sport can be had than at this same Poynt of Comfort; for here are gathered faire women and maidens and gallant and wise men from all ouer this vast domain, which has sprung from the vnknown wilderness which once confronted vs. For health, pleasvre and sport do they come, and, methinks the faire maidens do love to congregate here for the sight of the young men of Warre, who, in gallant array, do gather at mine inn both from the Fort and the greate ships of Warre, which are continvallie hereabovts, and verilie it would seem that one would be hard pyt to find a place whereat life would be the more pleasing to mind or eye than at this marvellous place. As in my day, while we did eat, Minstrels did perform, so here at the hovr for meals did a number of men on divers of strange instrvments discovrse sweet tvnes, and for dancing, when the men and maidens do disport themselves in the greate ball-room,
hung with lights of strange and wonderous brilliancie.

Small need for food ships now. The banquet hall of this faire hostlerie is even unto me a wonder, not onlie for its wonderous lights, such as no

Palace ever knew in the old days, but because the tables groan with such a companie of dishes as would arouse all wonder in the breast of His Majestie himself, who dined not thys, even in banquet state, and ever my mind goes back to the thought of the banquet halls of our late illustrious
trious Queene, for whom this Virginia was named.

Verilie, indeed, the times be changed, and who can doubt that they be changed for the better? Methinks not Captaine John Smith, after a meal eaten at mine inn, Hotel Chamberlin.

AFTER the evening meal do get together all the guests of the vast Inn in the noble hall, just within the entrance, and while the strains of bewitching mvsick are heard, do they drink a concoction of a berrie from far off lands, called coffee: and stranger still, do the men smoke tobacco, as did my good
friend, Powhatan, to the soothing of both mind and bodie. And thys, with much laughter and merrie discourse, do the hovrs pass away.

I woulde that valiant Sovldiers and Sайлors were not so plentiful in this most pleasing region. Oft haue I

In bygone hovrs begviled the time in discourse which has not proued of little interest to the maidens gathered nigh. As time advances it is my purpose, when all the gvests are gathered at evening in the vast apartment known as the Exchange, to seek ovt some beavteous maide and haplie relate to her a few of nine own thrilling escapes by land and sea. Yet, seemeth it that a cloud of Officers do ever wait upon these faire dames,
dames, so that mine opportunity may be tardier in coming than pleaseth me.

AND yet, even I, Captaine John Smith, have had to yield to other Souldiers, of fewer years, yet not, will I think, of greater valor. And, yea, let me set it down herein, that I cannot wonder, now that I have seen the fort at which they gather, its huge guns movnted upon mightie ramparts, its stovt defences and the skill at arms with which the souldiers are trained in matters of war. The new
day has far advanced, and I, alas, am of the old!

This morn did I visit the Fort, that Fort which has replaced Fort Algernon, which in 1611 protected, as best it might, His Majestie's subjects, somewhat about this site. Now, a vast pile of statelie buildings, with moat and earthworks on which are movnted gvnns of most prodigious size, take the place of ovr poor Stockade, manned by fortie Soldiers with seven poor cannon for their aid.

I witnessed, and a greate companie of beavteous dames and damsels as well, the goodlie spectacle of "parade," when uppon a broad green the men of warre, with statelie, albeit gracefvl mein, did perform manie a strange and wonderfvl euolution, fitting them to face the foe, with skill and craft.

Musick
There was, such music as might well hearten the Soldier as he went forth to war, and doublie sweet sounded it in that safe enclosvre, vnder huje live oaks and vpon a green so faire and beauteous, in the evening sun.

Here, at euen, takes place as well, a most faire ceremonie, the men assembled to witness the lowering of the flag, as is the custom at the setting of the sun. And here assemble the faire maidens, as before, that Beauty may smile on Valor, as it was euer since the world began.

To-day I aduentvred forth from the landing at the Chamberlin to witness the maruels of a modern ship of Warre—a fighting ship of such size and strength that scarce dare I to set down its invements. Alack, how small and poor seem compared to them were the
fghting vessels of mine own day! The
greate Armada which her late Most
Gracious Majestie did ventyre forth
would appear a mere hvddle of insigni-
ficant sayles, it seemeth, compared to
this greate ocean fort rocking vpon the
faire waters of Hampton Roads.

OR are the gallant offi-
cers of these greate
warre-ships a whit
behind the Sooldiers
in their attentions and
deuotions to the faire
sex. The gveets of this greate Inn are
euer welcome on board these hvge cara-
vels; for euer haue the mysteries of the
sea been of interest to the dwellers vpon
the shore. Small Shallops are euer
darting to and fro laden with those to
whom the greate armament and hvge
engines
engines of these mightie ships of warre are always mysteriouslys and interesting. Nor is it always the sight of these greate machines that calleth the faire maids on board them. Manie a time, as Will Shakespeare doth pvt it, "Grim visaged Warre doth smooth his wrinkled front;" and to the sweet strains of musick often upon the decks of these greate ships, 'mid pomp and circumstance of warre doth the faire maids and gallant men dance and make merrie. So thvs, in this favoured spot, doth the attractions of the sea wie with those of the land; and it doth seem to me that the faire maidens hereabovt are much pvt to choose between the sons of Mars and those of Neptone.
In bygone days some of His Gracious Majesty's Scottish cavaliers have related unto me the glorie of a game called Golf. To the links whereby this mightie game is played repair these maids and officers, and on their return much talk do I hear concerning it.

It is possible that, if I remain, even I must seek to learn the use of the manie clubs and other strange accoutrements, carried in a long bag to the links.

DAILIE do I witness great wonders. In a maruellous conveyance called, why I know not, a trollie, have I travelled for the space of one houer from the Chamberlin. Came we then to a vast and busy place called in honovr of mine old comrade "Newport News." Here is situated a shipyard, wherein are built ships so hagge, so trim, so safe for saying that it maketh sad the heart within me that I no more may tempt the main. Compared to these provd ships how small and
and mean seem the fleets of which King James was ever so prou'd as we set fourth from London Town, in December 1606. Much of the sights which met mine eyes in that bvsy place scarce may speak of; rigging and sayls and ov'tline all are changed in these greate ships. The most of them are propell'd by a strange and diabolical inuention called Steam, the trusting of which might well appal the boldest heart it seemeth vnto me: yet in no-wise dare I vnfold this belief to those abovt me, for to me alone seemeth this reveale, and Captaine John Smith was ever of too bold a heart to hesitate where others dared!
This day whereon these things be recorded has been marked by manie wonders. Waking earlie, I was overjoyed to see a goodlie companie of gentlemen set forth, armed with faire weapons, which had haplie, if used vnder mine own direction, set to flight those Salvages which so mightlie destroyed the peace of His Majestie's subjects in this Colonie afore-time.

"Meseems," thought I, "this doth betoken warre! Dovbtless, the cvnn-ning Salvage has once more displayed his enmitie towards the whites, and taken, after his wilie fashion, to the warre path to burn and massacre at will!"

I bethought me of the trembling maidens in these statelie halls and longed to join, and, if needs be, to command this gallant partie.

Alack, no need of sword this day was mine! The companie of caualiers fared forth not to warre, bvt to the hvnt, for the enjoyment of which most goodlie game preserves are provided by the management of the Chamberlin. Greate sport is promised to the hvnter, as witnessed I, at euen, on their retvrn, with
with overflowing bags. Scarce could I refrain mine enuy when I witnessed the resvlt of one day's hvnt.

To this faire preserve will I one day set forth.

Bvt one hovr's ride from Old Poynt Comfort is it sitvated; what matters it, if to gain it I must uentvre upon a strange inuention vnknown to me aforetime, called a railroad!
SOLDIERS a many be there in this vicinitie— as I haue before set down—yet greate was my surpise to discover, as I haue by the witness of mine own eyes, that here the old soldier, maimed by warre or past the years at which the bowels of a man do yearn for fighting, is cared for, hovsed and fed by the Government of this land.

This afternoon, scarce believing the tale which had been to mine ear related, I sallied forth to visit in mine own person the Home for Disabled Soldiers. Aye, in verrie truth it was so, for here, in loftie bUILDINGS, set in beavteous grounds, liue the old soldiers at their ease, discovrsing much of battles fought and won, after the wont of...
of sovldiers, since the world was new.

A strange matter was revealed unto me through mine offer of aid, if needs be, against the cvnning assavlts of the Salvages, so well known of me in my days of dwelling in this faire land of Virginia. Bvt few of the aforetime numerous hordes of Salvages remain to-day in this goodlie land, and manie are gathered together in a greate institvtion of learning called Hampton Institute and instrvcted in the peacefvl arts! Yea, in the same vicinity in which I once langvished six long weeks in crvel captivitie among them, nigh the spot vpon which the faire Pocahtontas did in my behalf so kindlie intercede with her stern father, the descendants of these same Salvages are taught to sow and reap, to weaue and bvilde!
Alack! My dream is ended. I must this night set forth for the realm of spirits, which I have so long inhabited. Indeed, times be so changed that I am ill at ease in this new day; and so, farewell! The world hath indeed travelled far since I was of it. James-town is but a romantic memory; my deeds are legends; and with a sad heart I leave behind me the comforts of Hotel Chamberlin. And while I may neuer again visit that "Point of Comfort," yet one comfort carry I hence. With what wondrous tales may I not confuse the ears of such comrades of mine old days, as fare forth when the clocks give tongue to midnight! A worthy teller of travel tales I ever was; but by my troth, neuer vntil now had I such maruels to relate!
The following extract from John Smith's History of Virginia, written by this celebrated explorer shortly after his return to England, is remarkable because of its prophetic character. Not only is the country, as he states, "propitious to the use of man," but there is at Old Point Comfort an immense fortification, with its accompanying military school, literally a "nurse for soldiers," and the additional fact that Hampton Roads is the rendezvous of the ships of the Navy would certainly indicate that it is a "practice for mariners." Even more startling is the immense development of the "trade for merchants" at Newport News and Norfolk; and the instruction of the Indian at the Hampton Institute in the arts of civilization and the doctrines of Christianity would all seem to indicate that John Smith was indeed gifted with prophetic vision.

There is but one entrance into this country, and that is at the mouth of a goodly bay eighteen or twenty miles broad; The Cape on the South is called Cape Henry, in honour of our most noble prince; the north cape is called Cape Charles, in honour of the worthy Duke of York. The isles before are called Smith's Isles, by the name of the discoverer. Within is a country that may have the prerogative over the most pleasant places known, for heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation.

The mildness of the air, the fertility of the soil and situation of the rivers are so propitious to the use of man, as no place is more convenient for pleasure, profit and man's sustenance under any latitude or climate.

So, then, here is a place, a nurse for soldiers, a practice for mariners, a trade for merchants, a reward for the good, and that which is most of all, a business (most acceptable to God) to bring such poor infidels to knowledge of God and His Holy Gospel.