

Captain JOHN SMITH, ADVENTURER and PIONEER

ALTHOUGH HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN A FAVORITE AMERICAN HERO THERE IS LITTLE THAT IS AUTHENTIC TO BE TOLD OF HIM



Couper's Statue of Smith



Portrait of Captain John Smith



Pocahontas Saving Captain Smith's Life



Old Portrait of the Princess Pocahontas



It is only now, after a somewhat leisurely history of three centuries, that Captain John Smith's part in the colonization of Virginia is to be acknowledged publicly by the erection of a statue on Jamestown island, at the mouth of James river. The island was in its present position when the gallant captain and his equally gallant fellow adventurers sailed up the river to satisfy themselves as to its source, and it has remained there to this day, but it seems to have required the lapse of three centuries and the stimulation of a world's fair to do the business of commemoration as it should be done.

So a colossal statue eight feet in height and standing on a pedestal eleven feet in height will testify to the coming generations that we of the early twentieth century made an effort to repair the neglect of our forefathers, who, indeed, were burdened with so many obligations of the sort that it is little wonder that somebody was overlooked. As last, however, there is going to be a Captain John Smith revival. Those who make the pilgrimage to Virginia this season to look upon the Jamestown tercentenary will see and hear much of him. Those who betake themselves to the scene of his new world activity will have an opportunity to fill themselves full of him, so to speak. They may land at Norfolk skeptical as to the famous Pocahontas episode, but they are quite likely to be converted speedily. Mr. Couper's great bronze statue, which will be unveiled in September, should be convincing—should at least make it possible to believe that Captain John Smith was a man of whom Americans should be very proud.

Did Not Deny It. That he was a great man there is no one more ready to admit than was the captain himself. Pretty much all the world knows about him, came from headquarters—from himself. Contemporary chroniclers seem to have

been so occupied with what they regarded as more important events that they failed to record most of the marvelous doings of Captain Smith. It was a mistake on their part, of course, and if they were alive today they would realize it, and how much more satisfactory and pleasant all around it would have been if they had come manfully to the support of those wonderful self told narratives which have taxed the credulity of even the best disposed.

Captain John Smith, however, was not the man to go unrecorded. In the absence of any one better qualified he made up his mind to undertake the business himself. When one undertakes that sort of a job it is folly not to do it well—especially to be unjust to oneself. Captain Smith did not expose himself to that criticism. It has been suggested that he did it a little too well. There are those who insinuate that the romantic features of his career are colored so richly that the brush marks are perceptible. The modern impressionist is open to the same criticism, and no one is unhappy over it. There are even a few carping souls—magicians and space writers for the most part—who have had the temerity to hint that Captain John Smith as his own historian was influenced by Munchausen and Marco Polo and that he surpassed them in inventive capacity. That is not the viewpoint of the writer of this little token of appreciation. It is monstrous to believe that it could ever become the viewpoint of the American people.

Says Captain Smith.

According to his own account, John Smith was born in Willoughby, Lincolnshire, England in 1572. This date has been questioned, but it is difficult to understand why. He was the son of one of the poorest tenants on the estate of Peregrine Bertie, Lord Willoughby, and when he was fifteen years of age he was apprenticed to a tanner in the village. He did not make kindly to the business and resolved to go out into the world in quest of adventures. With a well developed intention of that

description an imaginative and curious lad of fifteen is not likely to search in vain, and it did not take John Smith long to come up with his opportunity. Young Lord Willoughby was in the Netherlands, where war was progressing, and it was the most natural thing in the world that the self appointed knight errand should send his way thitherward. It is not a matter of record that the nobleman received the son of his tenant with open arms, but according to Smith's own record he was given a very important position in his lordship's following. It need not detract from the value of the record to learn from an ancient list recently come to light that Smith's name appears as that of a servant.

It was a few years later, however, when he went to fight the Turks, that he began to do things really worth while. It is fortunate also that during that period he had the rare presence of mind to keep an account of his doings, for there was nobody else who

would have done it. He tells us with becoming modesty that he performed such deeds of valor in Transylvania and Hungary that he was given a patent of nobility—and what is more interesting—a pension. He emerged unscathed from many a bloody battle, but he was not always so fortunate. Once he was wounded and left for dead on the field. It is all very thrilling as he relates it in his "General Historie."

An Interesting Captive.

Finally he fell into the hands of the enemy and was carried off to Constantinople. The captain's history waxed exceedingly spicy from this point. On account of his youthful comeliness he attracted the notice of a high born Turkish lady who was passing through the slave market, and she bought him. According to the captain, she was very beautiful and a woman of excellent taste, and he admits that his servitude was far from being unbearable. The lady's brother, however, was of another sort and carried off the too willing slave to his palace on the sea of Azov and was very unkind to him, so

unmistakably so, in fact, that Smith lost out his taskmaster's brains with a flail, put himself in the dead man's clothes and fled to Russia. When he reappeared in England he claimed that he was authorized to wear three Turkish heads in his arms in token of that number of Moslems killed by him in single combat. He said that he had received a patent to that effect from the Duke of Transylvania. A mischief making doubter has dug up the fact that at that time this duke had the Turks for his allies, but that need distress no admirer of Captain Smith. It may be set down as a remarkable example of moderation that he chose only three Turkish heads for his arms when he might easily have used a dozen.

Like Meets Like.

About 1605 he met a man in England who was after his own heart. This was Captain Bartholomew Gosnold, who had made one voyage to the coast of America and was about to make another. Smith determined to join the expedition, and Gosnold was greatly pleased to secure the company of one so congenial. The little fleet of three vessels sailed Dec. 19, 1606, with the intention to found a colony in Virginia. Smith was down on the list as a planter, and Gosnold had sealed instructions

which were to be opened on their arrival in America.

By the time the ships had reached the Canaries everything was in a state of eruption. Smith could not endure the discipline of the ship, and he was arrested and kept a prisoner during the remainder of the voyage. When the instructions were opened it was found that the prisoner had been named as one of the councillors, but it was thought prudent to restrain him awhile longer from the exercise of all governing power. A few days after landing he was permitted to take a boat and a few men for an exploration up the James river. He was of the opinion at the time that the others looked on his experiment as a possible solution of the difficulty, hoping that he might never return, and it is quite likely that he was right in his opinion.

Now a Peacemaker.

He did return, however, but not until he had made a treaty of peace with the mighty Powhatan. Again according to the captain, that powerful chief was so taken with the newcomer that he offered him every inducement to remain with him in the new colony. Smith did not accept the invitation. It would have simplified matters wonderfully. Under his benign influence the Indians would have permitted the colonists to do as they wished and everything would have been "as merry as a marriage bell."

Then he returned to the others and found matters very much tricked. The men had quarreled among themselves and also with the Indians in the vicinity. It required all the captain's power of conciliation to placate Powhatan. Having "fixed" that gentle savage, he proceeded to play the part of good angel to the colony. He procured a supply of food from the Indians, constructed dwellings and built stockades.

Although Powhatan was still "awfully fond" of him, that great man could not forget Smith's refusal to become an ornament of his court. He was proud to repeat his request at the risk of another refusal and too polite to insist, but finally he "stole" the captain and kept him in his royal tepee for six weeks. It was at this time that the famous interposition of the Princess Pocahontas is supposed

to have occurred, although Smith in his account of the six weeks' detention neglects to mention the affair. It seems that Powhatan, having failed in his effort to obtain a quit claim deed to the captain, made up his barbaric mind that no one else should have him, and with that end in view he decided to put him to death. There isn't a boy at girl in the United States who doesn't know the remainder of the story better than any newspaper man can tell it.

That Pocahontas Story.

Of course it is just a trifle odd that the circumstance shouldn't have occurred to the captain until about the time when Pocahontas, then the wife of John Rolfe, was making such a bit in England. He remembered it then and sent a letter to Queen Anne in which he says of the heroic act: "At the minute of my execution she hazarded the beating off of her own braids to save mine, and not only that, but so prevailed upon her father that I was safely conveyed to Jamestown." It is easy to see that this frank admission, tardy as it was, must have added immensely to the princess' vogue in England. Even though it were an act of purely inventive gallantry on the part of the captain, it does him infinite credit under the circumstances. There is no record to the effect that Mrs. Rolfe ever denied the soft impeachment, and he who questions the truth of the story is undeserving of notice.

It must not be thought that Captain Smith's career in the new world was largely mythical. He actually did more real things than any other man of his day toward planting the new civilization in Virginia. Few men would so only man whose strong will could curb the turbulent spirits of the colonists and preserve any semblance of law and order. He made surveys, planted settlements and produced maps of the coast. He was the author of the first reliable map of the New England coast. At the time of his death he bore the title of admiral of New England.

Quite as wonderful as the others were his literary achievements. He was easily the most entertaining of the travel writers of his day. If he had devoted himself to romance he would have been the peer of Sir Walter Scott.

GEORGE H. PICARD.

The Political Reformer of the Pacific Coast; Specially Appointed Prosecutor of Millionaire Booblers

As a public prosecutor Francis J. Heney of San Francisco has had even a better experience than either Governor Folk of Missouri or District Attorney Jerome of New York. The land fraud cases of the Pacific coast were second only in importance to the beef trust and Northern Securities investigations, and the way in which Heney proceeded against those guilty of theft of the public domain was a revelation to those who had been accustomed to the law's delays and hindrances.

Heney first came to the notice of the department of justice in 1901. He was then about thirty-eight years of age and had been retained to defend Judge Arthur Noyes, the Federal official involved in the Noyes ring scandal. Heney's argument before the supreme court in that case brought him into wide public notice, especially among the legal profession. Attorney General Knox, although he was on the opposite side, was greatly interested and confessed his admiration of Heney. He was so impressed by the lawyer's ability that as soon as the government was ready to proceed in the land fraud cases he sent for Heney and offered to put him in special charge of the prosecutions.

The result proved that Mr. Knox had made no mistake in his estimate of the man. From start to finish Heney conducted the business in a masterly fashion, making a clean sweep of the well entrenched operators and putting an end to one of the most brazen impostures ever practiced on the American people. His unqualified success in this matter made him the one man demanded by the commercial interests of San Francisco when it became apparent that the already stricken city was infested by the most conscienceless band of political tricksters known to mankind.

So Heney was made special assistant district attorney of San Francisco and given full rein to proceed according to his own approved methods. His first move was to send for W. J. Burns, the secret service agent who had been his assistant in the land frauds. This man had proved himself to be a veritable Sherlock Holmes in the running down of booblers in the land cases, and

Heney foresaw that he should need him in San Francisco. In compliance with his request Burns resigned from the secret service and went quietly to the scene of action.

As a result of the co-operation of this keen-scented pair of sleuths fifteen out of eighteen supervisors of the municipality are now self confessed booblers. The accused victims of their activity are Abraham Ruef, political dictator of San Francisco; Mayor Schmitz, the municipal chief executive of the city; the supervisors elected on the administration ticket, the Pacific Telephone company, the United Railroad company, which controls all the transit lines in the city, and many other amusement and public service concerns which depend on municipal charters for their existence.

All this is really an embarrassment of riches. Recent exposures brought about by Burns and his assistants have furnished Heney more material than his corps of lawyers can find time to attend to. He declares that before he has finished his work at least four millionaires will be indicted and that a couple of hundred separate indictments will be found against those concerned in the robbing of San Francisco. This is indeed a colossal sweep, but there is reason to believe that Heney will be as good as his word.

When Heney and Burns began their task of getting at the bottom of official crookedness in San Francisco they resorted to the clever trick of having "fake" bills presented to the board of supervisors. Burns, who was a comparative stranger in California, went quietly to a supervisor and asked him to obtain certain privileges for an amusement company that purposed opening a large skating rink. Burns promised to make it interesting for him, and the supervisor agreed to bring the other two commissioners to talk it over. The three men met Burns according to appointment and were handed marked bills. To make the business more secure a stenographer was stationed at the keyhole and every word spoken was taken down in shorthand. Burns took good care that the conversation should be sufficiently incriminating. The ordinance was introduced and passed as desired, the supervisors not even discovering that the first four



FRANCIS J. HENEY.

had a considerable knowledge of music. Russia has 55,000 miles of navigable rivers, and by the latest accounts the traffic on these waters is 10,000,000 tons a year. She has 55,000 miles of railway open.

Girls must know how to sew, knit and bake before their guardians will permit them to have lovers in Norway. Some of them are so eager to acquire these useful accomplishments that they learn them before they can read and write.

There are very few millionaires in France. Outside of Paris no one has

died worth as much as \$10,000,000 during the past two years.

During the past winter the canals of Venice were frozen over. In 1749 the Adriatic itself was fringed with ice, and the harbor of Genoa choked with ice.

Metal does not rust in Lake Titicaca, South America. A chain, an anchor or any article of iron if thrown in this lake and allowed to remain for weeks or months is as bright when taken up as when it came fresh from the foundry.

In the United States there are thirty

towns or villages named Berlin, twenty-one Hamburgs, twenty-three bearings the name Paris, and thirteen Londons.

San Marino, in central Italy, is the smallest republic in the world. It has only twenty-two square miles, but its population is 8,500. Its annual revenue is \$15,000, and it has no debt. The army has 130 officers and 900 men.

Railways use up over 2,000,000 tons of steel a year, almost half the world's product.

Switzerland is getting rich very rapidly. Latest statistics give the national

wealth as \$3,500,000,000. Two-fifths of this amount is invested in hotel property, and the annual income of Swiss hotelkeepers is at least \$20,000,000.

The quietest part of the British empire is probably Malden Island, a rugged island in the Pacific. Though thirty-seven miles round, nothing grows on it except a few patches of gray scrub. In the middle is a salt lake, which fills the crater of an extinct volcano.

If all the force of the two great waterfalls Niagara and the Victoria falls could be used to produce power, the

dence at Tucson and began the practice of the law.

He advanced rapidly in his profession and at the age of thirty was made attorney general of the territory. He was exceedingly popular in Arizona, and if he had remained there until it was admitted into the Union he would probably have been elected United States senator. He returned to California, however, and practiced his profession for eight years in San Francisco with gratifying success.

He was then engaged when he was asked to prosecute the land frauds. He was not willing to neglect his extensive business, but he received a guarantee from the government that made it possible for him to do so. In his present work he declares that he is looking for no special fee and that he can now afford to labor pro bone publico.

SILAS O. WOODSON.

EDISON'S COURTSHIP.

T. A. Edison's courtship was characteristic of the great inventor. The first Mrs. Edison was, previous to her marriage, a telegraph operator in his employ. One day while standing behind her, watching her at work, Edison, who had long admired the young lady, was surprised when she turned round and said, "Mr. Edison, I can always tell when you are near me." "How do you account for that?" returned Edison. "I don't know," responded the young lady, "but it is a fact nevertheless." Edison looked her full in the face and said, "I've been thinking considerably about you of late, and if you are willing to marry me I would like to marry you." A month later they were married, the union proving a very happy one.

MARVELOUS ELECTRIC FOUNTAIN.

The city of Vienna has installed what is perhaps the most remarkable electric or electrically lighted fountain in existence. It is situated in the Schwanenbadplatz. Underneath the fountain are placed in a huge cemented chamber are placed twenty-seven reflecting lamps capable of producing seventy different luminous and colored effects. The light is transmitted through the waters of the fountain. The high power of the plant is estimated as equal to 900,000,000 candles.

power would be 50 per cent greater than that produced by all the coal at present dug from the world's mines.

A proof of Germany's rapidly increasing wealth is that, while in 1895 only 2,449,000 paid income tax, last year 4,390,000 paid the tax.

April, with December and June, are the principal marrying months in England, and May the poorest of marriage months. Yet in Holland May is the month of all others for marriages. In Russia January and February are the marriage months, and in Norway June and July.