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of 200,000 acres ; and the state of North-Carolina gave him the like quantity in Powel's Valley. This region was formerly claimed by various tribes of Indians ; whose title, if they had any, originated in such a manner, as to render it doubtful which ought to possess it. Hence this fertile spot became an object of contention, a theatre of war, from which it was properly denominated the Bloody Grounds. Their contentions not being likely to decide the right to any particular tribe, as soon as Mr. Henderson and his friends proposed to purchase, the Indians agreed to sell ; and notwithstanding the valuable consideration they received, have continued ever since troublesome neighbours to the new settlers.

The progress in improvements and cultivation which has been made in this country, almost exceeds belief. Fourteen years ago Kentucky lay in forest, almost uninhabited, but by wild beasts. Now, notwithstanding the united opposition of all the western Indians, she exhibits an extensive settlement, divided into seven large and populous counties, in which are a number of flourishing towns; containing more inhabitants than are in Georgia, Delaware or Rhode-Island states; and nearly or quite as many as in New-Hampshire. An instance of the like kind, where a settlement has had so large and so rapid a growth, can scarcely be produced in history.

NORTH-CAROLINA.

*miles.*

Length 758 } between {  $34^{\circ}$  and  $36^{\circ} 30'$  N. Latitude.  
Breadth 110 }        {  $1^{\circ}$  and  $16^{\circ}$  West Longitude.

**B**OUNDED north, by Virginia ; east, by the Atlantic ocean ; south, by South-Carolina and Georgia ; west, by the Mississippi.

*Civil Divisions.*] This state is divided into eight districts, which are subdivided into fifty-eight counties, as follows :

*Distribs.*

<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Districts.</i>	<i>Counties.</i>
Edenton, 9 counties.	{ Chowan, Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimins, Gates, Hertford, Bertie, Tyrrel.	Halifax, 7 counties.	{ Halifax, Northampton, Martin, Edgecomb, Warren, Franklin, Nash.
Wilmington, 8 counties.	{ New Hanover, Brunswick, Cumberland, Robinson, Duplin, Beaden, Wayne, Moore.	Hillsborough, 9 counties.	{ Orange, Chatan, Granville, Johnston, Catawba,* Sampson, Wake, Guilford, Randolph.
Newbern, 8 counties.	{ Craven, Beaufort, Carteret, Pitt, Dobbs, Hyde, Jones, Onslow.	Salisbury, 8 counties.	{ Rowan, Mecklenburg, Rockingham, Surry, Montgomery,* Anson, Wilkes, Richmond.
Davidson, 2 counties.	{ Davidson, Summer.	Morgan, 8 counties.	{ Burk, Green,* Rutherford, Washington,* Sullivan,* Lincoln, Hawkins,* Russell.*

The above three districts are on the sea coast, extending from the Virginia line southwestward to South-Carolina.

The counties marked (\*) constitute the district called FRANKLAND, lying west of and between the parallels of 35° and 37° north latitude.

These five districts, beginning on the Virginia line, cover the whole state west of the three maritime districts before mentioned; and the greater part of them extend quite across the state from north to south.

*Rivers.*] *Chowan* river is formed by the confluence of three rivers, viz. the Meherrin, Nottaway and Black rivers; all of which rise in Virginia. It falls into the northwest corner of Albemarle sound.

*Roanoke* is a long rapid river, formed by two principal branches, Staunton river, which rises in Virginia, and Dan river, which rises in North-Carolina. It empties, by several mouths, into the southwest end of Albemarle sound.

*Pamlico* or *Tar* river opens into Pamlico sound.

*Neus* river empties into Pamlico sound below Newbern.

*Trent* river, from the southwest, falls into the *Neus* at Newbern.

All the rivers in North-Carolina, and, it may be added, in South-Carolina, Georgia, and the Floridas, which empty into the Atlantick ocean, are navigable by any vessel that can pass the bar at their mouths. While the water courses continue broad enough for vessels to turn round, there is generally a sufficient depth of water for them to proceed.

*Cape Fear* river opens into the sea at Cape Fear. As you ascend it, you pass Brunswick on the left, and Wilmington on the right. The river then divides into north-east and north-west branches, as they are called. This river affords the best navigation in North-Carolina.

*Pelison*, *Holstein*, *Noley Chuckey*, and *Frank* rivers, are all branches of the broad *Tennessee*, which falls into the Ohio.

*Sounds, Capes, Swamps, &c.*] *Pamlico Sound* is a kind of lake or inland sea, from 10 to 20 miles broad, and nearly 100 miles in length. It is separated from the sea, in its whole length, by a beach of sand hardly a mile wide, generally covered with small trees or bushes. North of Pamlico sound, and communicating with it, is *Albemarle sound*, 60 miles in length, and from 8 to 12 in breadth. *Core sound* lies south of Pamlico, and communicates with it. These sounds are so large, when compared with their inlets from the sea, that no tide can be perceived in any of the rivers which empty into them; nor is the water salt even in the mouths of these rivers.

*Cape Hatteras* is in lat.  $35^{\circ} 15'$ . This cape has been dreaded by mariners sailing southward when they have been in large vessels; for if they come within 20 miles of the land at the cape, it is in some places too shoal for them; if they stand further off, they are in danger of falling into the Gulf Stream, which would set them 3 or 4 miles an hour northward. It is observable that violent storms of rain, and gusts of wind, are uncommonly frequent around this cape.

*Cape*

*Cape Lookout* is south of Cape Hatteras, opposite Core sound, and has had an excellent harbour entirely filled up with land since the year 1777.

*Cape Fear* is remarkable for a dangerous shoal called, from its form, the *Frying pan*.

*Dismal Swamp* spreads over the whole tract of country which lies between Pamlico and Albemarle sounds, and needs no other description than is conveyed by its name. There is another large swamp north of Edenton, which lies partly in this state and partly in Virginia. This swamp is owned by two companies; the Virginia company, of which President Washington is a member, hold 100,000 acres; and the North-Carolina company, who hold about 40,000 acres. It is in contemplation to cut a canal through this swamp, from the head of Pasquetank to the head of Elizabeth river, in Virginia, 12 or 14 miles in length.

*Kanawa River and the Alleghany Mountains.*] In 1789 this district contained about 40,000 souls; and it is probable it will shortly be erected into a separate state.

*Principal Towns.*] Newbern, Edenton, Wilmington, Halifax, Hillsborough and Fayetteville, each in their turns, have been considered as the capital of the state. At present they have no capital. The convention which met to consider the new constitution, fixed on a place in Wake county to be the seat of government, but the town is not yet built.

NEWBERN is the largest town in the state. It stands on a flat, sandy point of land, formed by the confluence of the rivers Neus on the north, and Trent on the south. The town contains about 400 houses, all built of wood, excepting the palace, the church, the gaol and two dwelling-houses, which are of brick.

EDENTON is situated on the north side of Albemarle sound; and has about 150 indifferent wood-houses, and a few handsome buildings. It has a brick church for Episcopalians, which for many years has been much neglected, and serves only to shew that the people once had a regard, at least, for the *externals* of religion. Its local situation is advantageous for trade, but not for health.

WILMINGTON

WILMINGTON is a town of about 180 houses, situated on the east side of the eastern branch of Cape Fear river, 34 miles from the sea.

ABINGDON, in Washington county, is the principal town in the district of *Frankland*. It is situated 310 miles, a little to the south of west, from Richmond in Virginia, in lat.  $36^{\circ} 40'$ .

*Face of the Country, Soil and Productions.*] North-Carolina, in its whole width, for 60 miles from the sea, is a dead level. A great proportion of this tract lies in forest, and is barren. On the banks of some of the rivers, particularly of the Roanoke, the land is fertile and good. Interspersed through the other parts, are glades of rich swamp, and ridges of oak land, of a black, fertile soil. Sixty and 80 miles from the sea, the country rises into hills and mountains, as described in South-Carolina and Georgia.

That part of North-Carolina which lies west of the mountains, a tract about 500 miles in length, east and west, and upwards of 100 in breadth (except the Cumberland barrens, and some broken lands), is a fine fertile country, watered by the broad Tennessee and its numerous branches, and abounds with oaks, locust trees of several kinds, walnut, elm, linn and cherry trees, some of which are three feet in diameter. Wheat, rye, barley, oats and flax grow well in the back hilly country. Indian corn and pulse of all kinds in all parts. Cotton is also considerably cultivated here, and might be raised in much greater plenty. It is planted yearly: The stalk dies with the frost.

*Trade.*] The southern interior counties carry their produce to Charleston; and the northern to Petersburg in Virginia. The exports from the lower parts of the state are, tar, pitch, turpentine, rosin, Indian corn, lumber, furs, tobacco, pork, &c. Their trade is chiefly with the West-Indies, and the northern states.

*Climate, Diseases, &c.*] In the flat country near the sea coast, the inhabitants, during the summer and autumn, are subject to intermitting fevers, which often prove fatal, as bilious or nervous symptoms prevail.

The

The inhabitants have very little of the bloom and freshness of the people in the northern states.

The western hilly parts of the state are as healthy as any of the United States. That country is fertile, full of springs and rivulets of pure water. The air there is serene a great part of the year, and the inhabitants live to old age, which cannot be said of the inhabitants of the flat country. The winters are so mild in some years, that autumn may be said to continue till spring.

*Religion.*] The western parts of this state, which have been settled within the last 35 years, are chiefly inhabited by Presbyterians from Pennsylvania, the descendants of people from the north of Ireland, and are exceedingly attached to the doctrines, discipline and usages of the church of Scotland. They are a regular, industrious people. Almost all the inhabitants between the Catawba and Yadkin rivers, and in the district of Frankland, are of this denomination, and they are in general well supplied with a sensible and learned ministry. There are interspersed some settlements of Germans, both Lutherans and Calvinists, but they have very few ministers. The Moravians have several flourishing settlements in this state.

The Friends or Quakers have a settlement in New-Garden, in Guilford county, and several congregations at Perquimins and Pasquetank. The Methodists and Baptists are numerous and increasing. Besides the denominations already mentioned, there is a very numerous body of people, in this, and in all the southern states, who cannot properly be classed with any sect of Christians, having never made any profession of Christianity, and are literally, as to religion, NOTHING-ARIANS.

*Colleges and Academies.*] There is no university or college in the state. In the original constitution it is declared that "There shall be one or more seminaries of learning maintained at the publick expense." But the legislature, hitherto, have not considered that clause as binding. Probably they do not like it. Academies are established at Newbern, Salisbury and Hillsborough.

*Population,*

*Population, Character, Manners and Customs.*] The inhabitants of this state are reckoned, by the census of 1790, at 393,751, of which 100,572 are slaves. The North-Carolinians are mostly planters, and live from half a mile to 3 and 4 miles from each other, on their plantations. They have a plentiful country—no ready market for their produce—little intercourse with strangers, and a natural fondness for society, which induce them to be hospitable to travellers. In the lower districts the inhabitants have very few places for publick and weekly worship of any kind; and these few, being destitute of ministers, are suffered to stand neglected. The sabbath of course, which, in most civilized countries, is at least professionally and externally regarded as holy time, and which, considered merely in a civil view, is an excellent establishment for the promotion of cleanliness, friendship, harmony and all the social virtues, is here generally disregarded, or distinguished by the convivial visitings of the white inhabitants, and the noisy diversions of the negroes. The women, except in some of the populous towns, have very little intercourse with each other, and are almost entirely destitute of the bloom and vivacity of the north.

The general topics of conversation among the men, when cards, the bottle, and occurrences of the day do not intervene, are negroes, the prices of indigo, rice, tobacco, &c. They appear to have as little taste for the sciences as for religion. Political inquiries, and philosophical disquisitions, are attended to but by a few men of genius and industry, and are too laborious for the indolent minds of the people at large. Less attention and respect are paid to the women here, than in those parts of the United States where the inhabitants have made greater progress in the arts of civilized life. Indeed, it is a truth, confirmed by observation, that in proportion to the advancement of civilization, in the same proportion will respect for the women be increased; so that the progress of civilization in countries, in states, in towns and in families, may be marked by the degree of attention which is paid by husbands to their wives, and by the young men to the young women.



The citizens of North-Carolina, who are not better employed, spend their time in drinking, or gaming at cards, or dice, in cock fighting or horse racing. Many of the interludes are filled up with a boxing match ; and these matches frequently become memorable by feats of *gouging*.\*

In a country that pretends to any degree of civilization, one would hardly expect to find a prevailing custom of putting out the eyes of each other. Yet this more than barbarous custom is prevalent in both the Carolinas, and in Georgia, among the lower class of people. Of the origin of this custom we are not informed. We presume there are few competitors for the honour of having originated it ; and equally as few who are envious of the *pleasure* of those who have the *honour* to continue it.

*Constitution.*] By the constitution of this state, which was ratified in December, 1776, all legislative authority is vested in two distinct branches, both dependent on the people, viz. A *Senate* and *House of Commons*, which, when convened for business, are styled the *General Assembly*.

The Senate is composed of representatives, one for each county, chosen annually by ballot.

The House of Commons consists of representatives chosen in the same way, two for each county, and one for each of the towns of Edenton, Newbern, Wilmington, Salisbury, Hillsborough and Halifax.

The Senate and House of Commons, when convened, jointly, by ballot, at their first meeting after each annual election, choose a Governor for one year, who is not eligible to that office longer than three years in six successive years ; and who must possess a freehold of more than £.1000, and have been an inhabitant of the state above five years. They, in the same manner — and

\* The *delicate and entertaining diversion*, with propriety called *gouging*, is thus performed. When two *boxers* are worried with fighting and bruising each other, they come, as it is called, to *close quarters*, and each endeavours to twist his forefingers in the ear locks of his antagonist. When these are fast clinched, the thumbs are extended each way to the nose, and the eyes *gently* turned out of their sockets. The victor, for his expertness, receives shouts of applause from the sportive throng, while his poor, *eyeless* antagonist is laughed at for his misfortune.

and at the same time, elect seven persons to be a council of state for one year, to advise the Governor in the execution of his office.

The constitution allows of no religious establishment.

*History.*] The history of North-Carolina is less known than that of any of the other states. From the best accounts that history affords, the first permanent settlement in North-Carolina was made about the year 1710, by a number of Palatines from Germany, who had been reduced to circumstances of great indigence, by a calamitous war. The proprietors of Carolina, knowing that the value of their lands depended on the strength of their settlements, determined to give every possible encouragement to such emigrants. Ships were accordingly provided for their transportation; and, upon their arrival, Governor Tynte granted them a tract of land in North-Carolina, since called Albemarle and Bath precincts, where they settled, and flattered themselves with having found, in the hideous wilderness, a happy retreat from the desolations of a war which then raged in Europe.

In the year 1712, a dangerous conspiracy was formed by the Coree and Tuscorora tribes of Indians, to murder and expel this infant colony. Their horrid purposes were in part effected; and the colony would have been entirely cut off, had they not received a timely relief from Governor Craven, of South-Carolina. In this expedition it was computed that near a thousand Tuscororas were killed, wounded and taken. The remainder of the tribe soon after abandoned their country, and joined the Five Nations, with whom they have ever since remained. After this the infant colony remained in peace, and continued to flourish under the general government of South-Carolina, till about the year 1729, when seven of the proprietors, for a valuable consideration, vested their property and jurisdiction in the crown, and the colony was erected into a separate province, by the name of North-Carolina, and its present limits established by an order of George II.