SOUTHLAND STORIES BY LARRY GANTT

TELLS OF THE MEN OF THE OTHER DAYS.

Early Recollections

Joel Chandler Harris, Creator of "Uncle Remus," Started on His Career as a Printer's Devil.

When Oliver Goldsmith wrote "Honor and fame from no condition rise," he stated a truth that has been demonstrated times without num-

It is rarely a case where brains or eminent public service are inherent in a family, for the sons and descendants of great men appear content to live upon ancestral fame. Like unto the potato, the best part is underground.

On the other hand, the intellect, eminence and leadership of every country must go among the plane people in the more obscure walk of life, and in the Old World, often its peasantry. Trace all the great leaders in Europe, for both good and evil, from Martin Luther to Lenine and Trotsky and you will find them belonging to what is known as the "lower class," but in our Republic as the "plain people."

William the Conqueror was the illegitimate son of a washerwoman: Catherine, who, after Peter the Great, created the Russian Empire, was the lewd daughter of an ignorant Tartar peasant, and Napoleon Bonaparte, a Corsican adventurer, whose boast

was, "I am my own ancestor!" Then consider our own country! Daniel Webster was the son of a poor New England farmer, who did not even moast of descent from the Pilgrim Fathers; Henry Clay was known as the "Mill Boy of the Slashes;" Patrick Henry, born on a small Virginia farm and when an obscure young lawyer, reaped fame and honors in a day by his "Give me liberty or give me death!" John C. Calhoun descended from a family of poor Irish emigrants: the father of Jefferson Davis was a small bankrupt farmer of Wilkes county, Georgia, who moved his family in a wagon to Kentucky a couple of weeks before the president of the Southern Confederacy was born; Alexander H. Stephens belonged to a poor but highly respected family, his father and mother's family (Grier) being small farmers; Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, was born and raised near the Chimney Rock section of Rutherford county, North Carolina, and Nancy was a house servant for a family named Enslow, and on account of the jealousy of her employ-

ried Lincoln. Joe Chandler Harris ("Uncle Remus") journalist and author, whose book has been translated into many languages and whose name is revered by both old and young throughout the reading world-a plain Southern Democrat, whom a Republican President invited as his honored and especial guest to the White Housewas a poor Georgia boy, born on a small, rocky farm in Jasper county. I don't suppose any boy ever started life under more trying or discouraging circumstances. He had only the rudimental smattering of an education obtained at a small and antiquated country school, and so he had to educate himself while earning a

er's wife she went to some kinspeople

in Kentucky where she met and mar-

An old man who made hats out of rabbit skins printed a small paper on his farm called the "Countryman." He hired Joe Harris as a printer's devil, and he also learned the boxes and how to stick type. In due time the "Countryman" suspended and er. I do not think Joe Harris realiz-Joe Harris found work on other weeklies in that section, and started to set up while at the case paragraphs for the paper; and they were so pointed and bright that he was encouraged Remus' stories he wrote me enclosing by the editor to continue the work. Harris's squibs began to attract attention from the daily papers and were extensively copied. They became the leading feature in every paper with which Harris was con-

It was during the Franco-Prussian being of pure African descent, load- these Uncle Remus stories truly dewar. I was a young fellow working on ed my young mind with such narra- pict the kindly relations existing be- points in our system for which we do the Savannah Morning News, taking tives as recited by Uncle Remus and tween the Southern slave-owner and not receive credit, and weak points revelation made not by aliens, but by my initial training in daily journal- which we both firmly believed. I his loyal and dependent blacks. ism. The editor of the News was sent Harris several pages of these When Joe Harris died there passed Such has been the case in other and manfully attacked the problems took holiday on the fourth of July Col. W. T. Thompson, author of a stories which he rewrote and publish- away a pure-minded, golden-hearted states, and this fact constitutes an ad- growing out of the acutal facts. This and surprised his friends upon his rehumorous book of that day named ed. It was thus that Harris collected gentleman, whose mission in life was ditional reason for attempting one is what we can do in South Carolina turn by bringing with him a young

Estill was proprietor.

till came into the office piloting one of the most unprepossessing specimens of humanity my eyes ever rested upon. Were I an artist I could paint that picture today from memory. Mr. Harris could have passed for any age from 18 to 30. He was a chunky-built, red-headed, freckledfaced young man, apparently weighing around 130 pounds and had he started to travel on looks would never have got beyond his front gate. But the most noticeable thing about "Mr. Harris" was his clothes and their fit, or rather their misfit. They were of homespun jeans, the wool spun just as sheared from a blackgreyish sheep. I should judge from their fit that the tailor spread out the cloth on the floor, laid Harris on it and then proceeded to cut out the garments with a dull knife. The pants ended just above the shoe tops, and it is needless to add that the pressing club was an unknown institution where the gentleman came from. And let me just here add that after Harris began to wear "store clothes" they always looked as if they were thrown on him with a pitchfork. I never saw a man further removed from a dude or a

Beau Brummel than Joe Harris. After shaking hands around and Mr. Estill had escorted Harris downstairs I turned to Colonel Thompson and asked:

"What species of critter was that Mr. Estill brought up?"

"Why, Gantt," was the reply, 'that's our new news editor and his name is Harris."

"How did the boss catch him, in a fish-trap or net? Can it talk?" was my next query.

"He certainly has an ungainly appearance," remarked the colonel, "but we have been watching his articles and he will surprise you. Estill got him from a paper in Forsyth. His work will be to paragraph the state

The next night when Harris's copy came up, I knew that our paper had try. a rare genius in its paragrapher. Every line was bristling with humor and as pointed as a needle. Harris wrote a hand almost like copperplate, punctuated and every i dotted-and t crossed.

Harris and I worked together for some seven years on the Savannah News and our friendship was unbroken to his death.

Joe Harris was the most unassuming, yea, modest man I ever knew. This characteristic made him appear unsocial to strangers, but with congenial friends he would unlimber himself and it was indeed a rare treat to spend an evening in his company. Harris was never much of a talker, preferring to sit back and leave that to others; but occasionally he would put in a word of witticism and whatever he said he was always germain to the point or brimful of humor. And Joe Harris never penned a line or spoke a word but it was worth reading or hearing. He was loyalty itself to his friends and they were bound to him with links of steel.

No famous man ever cared so little for public applause at Joel Chandler Harris. He would hide from admirers hunting him up and Harris never made a public speech in his life. We have been together at public gatherings and banquets when the room would be ringing with calls for "Harris! Harris! Harris!" But Joe would smile and shake his head and if the calls were too persistent he would slip away and disappear.

While in Savannah he met and married a Canadian lady, daughter of a sea captain and his family life was as beautiful as his social life. A tenderer or more devoted husband and father could not be found.

As the years rolled by Grady employed Harris as editorial writer on the Atlanta Constitution and I besame owner of the Athens Daily Banner. It was at this time that Harris began to win fame as a literary writed his talent until the world began to applaud his productions and clamored for more.

When Harris started on his "Uncle copies of several he had prepared and knowing my family had always been slave-owners, asked that I refresh my memory and send him all the old negro folk lore stories that I could call to mind. My old black nurse Tilda the Old South would have perished having one conducted in South Carowas pregnant with superstition and with emancipation. And furthermore, lina. It is more than probable that

CRIMINAL ASSAULT

WHITE YORK COUNTY GIRL OF EIGHTEEN YEARS VICTIM.

Notifies Sheriff

Alleged Attack Thursday-Says Assailant Threatened to Kill Her if She Told.

York, July 11.-Jackson Darby, negro, aged 45, is in jail here, charged with criminal assault on the eighteen-year old daughter of a well known farmer of western York county. Darby will in all probability be tried this week, it is believed, as the court of general dessions convened yesterday. He steadily asserts his innocence.

According to the story told officers by the young girl the alleged assault occurred several days ago when a negro caught her while she was returning to her home from the mail box, dragging her into a clump of bushes, he telling her that if she told a soul he would "blow her brains out." Fear of the negro kept her silent until last Thursday when she had her sister write Sheriff Fred Quinn, giving him all the details. The spot where the assault occurred still bears evidences of a struggle, according to

Darby was arrested yesterday after a search of several days and brought to jail here. He was not brought into the court house this morning, although there was no indication of mob violence.

Darby has a wife and several children. He is alleged to have a bad reputation in this community.

The alleged assault occurred in sparcely settled section of the coun-

FARMER DROWNS.

Loses Life in Chester Pond While Bathing After Eating.

phia, in York county, was drowned making good progress in every line, this afternoon in Guy's pond near Chester. He was 27 years of age. His wife was on the bank and wit- South Carolina in order to realize evnessed the drowning. It is thought, en a meager part of their ideals. that he went in bathing too soon after eating dinner and that death cational situation in South Carolina is was caused by acute indigestion probably as 'spotted' as the road siturather than cramps. He leaped into ation, properly describes the condithe water and swam about fifty feet tion. In North Carolina a few years and was coming back. When he ago the largest spots were in the got within about 15 feet of the bath western part of the state, whereas house he screamed for help, wi ch the reverse may be true of South was quickly forthcoming, but his Carolina. It makes no difference helper could do nothing for him and however, where the spots are; they at he was nearly drowned in the effort least furnish fine targets for critics to save him. Mr. Dunlap was highly everywhere. Not only so, but while sible to rest, in accordance with inesteemed throughout Chester and local self government is theoretically structions of his physician. York counties and his death has in line with true democracy, it may caused profound sorrow. He was a son of Thomas Dunlap, a prominent | number of small democracies very va-York county planter.

DECREASE SHOWN IN FOOD COST.

Three Per cent.

from ten additional cities compiled by tional survey made. We ought to rethe department of labor showed Charleston, S. C., heading the list with a own real educational condition as redecrease of 3 per cent. in the cost of later both to other counties and to food for the month ending June 15. the state as a whole. Then, each can Kansas City and Philadelphia report- take stock of itself and see clearly ed decreases of 2 per cent., while Atlanta, Baltimore, Indianapolis and interests of its own children and the New York showed reductions of 1 per | children of the entire state. cent. Reports from other cities previously made public showed declines of 2 per cent. in Manchester, N. H., and Rochester, N. Y., and 1 per cent. North Carolina, and Alabama. It in Birmingham, Detroit and Jackson-

Cities where an increase in food prices were noted in today's report Citizens' Conference shall have comwere Little Rock, Ark., with a 1 per cent. jump; Savannah, Ga., 3-10 of 1 per cent. and Washington 4-10 of 1

dianapolis led the field with a 40 per cent. reduction, Kansas City being giving the results that these surveys next with 38 per cent.

One night about 12 o'clock Mr. Es- ing recollections of slavery days in the Yorkville Enquirer.

SPARTANBURG CONFERENCE.

Dr. Pell Urges Large Attendance Upon Educational Meeting.

One of the most important conferences of a generation in South Carolina is that to be held in Spartanburg on Friday, July 15th. It is being advertised as a "Citizen's State Educational Conference." As we understand it, the purpose of the conference is to give calm consideration to South Carolina's situation in the matter of education and to discuss ways and means of bringing about some improvements in the state's record along that line. The conference will be held under the auspices of the Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce, and, if we are not mistaken, will take place at Converse college, where dinner will be served on the grounds to the visitors.

The chairman of the conference is Dr. Robert P. Pell, the president of Converse college. In letters addressed to the newspapers of the state and to various individuals most likely to be interested in this conference, Dr. Pell has ably and forcefully discussed the situation that is to be made the subject of this conference. In a letter to the Charleston News and Courier, in response to an editorial in that paper in reference to the educational conference, Dr. Pell says:

"I thank you most heartily for your very interesting and helpful editorial in The News and Courier about the Citizen's State Educational Conference to be held in Spartanburg on July 15.

"You are unquestionably right in supposing that marked improvement in our educational facilities in South Carolina has been made even since the statistics, derived partly from the lumbia. In his confession he went Journal of the National Educational Association and partly from the United States Bureau of Education for 1918, were secured. It is also proper for us to remember, as you have suggested, that other states have also in a town in Pennsylvania. moved forward in that time, and that we have no reason to believe that the situation in South Carolina as compared with other states has Reception at Greenville Pleases Chief changed very much. Those acquainted with the activities of the state de-Chester, July 10 .- Paul Dunlap, a partment of education of South Carobut they really need the hearty cooperation of the whole citizenship of per men this afternoon as being high-

"Mr. Hearon's remark, that the edupractically result in producing a large ried in their complexion, and where a state is made up of a large number of these small democracies the entire commonwealth will acquire a general Charleston Heads the List With complexion determined by those that are most heavily shaded. This is one argument we are making in behalf of Washington, July 10 .- Reports having a rigid and thorough educaveal to every county in the state its its own responsibility, in view of the

"State educational surveys have been conducted in several southern states, namely: Maryland, Virginia seems that Arkansas and Kentucky are also now having this done. In order that those who attend this plete and up-to-date information concerning these surveys. Dr. George Frederick Cook, higher education expert of the United States Bureau of For the year ending June 15, In- education, a recognized authority on this subject, will deliver an address such a survey will indicate strong state in which the legislature appoint- Anderson Daily Mail.

WITNESS TELLS OF ROBBERY IN COPE.

CONFEDERATE OF MEN TURNED STATES' EVIDENCE.

Rendevous in Columbia.

Says Gang Took Part in Several Robberies in This and Other

States.

Camden, July 12 .- The case of the state against William Brawley, Alex Cartledge, Lloyd Lorick and Dewey Dennis, was taken up in sessions court here this morning. Quite an array of witnesses, spectators and attorneys were present, including relatives of the young men charged with robbing the Bank of Lugoff in this county. Inspector Gregory who succeeded in rounding up the alleged robbers is here to give testimony.

The jury was completed after the noon hour today with David Wolfe, of Camden, as foreman and the case was immediately begun.

George Gunn, alias George Ganney, alias George Robinson, an alleged confederate of the young men on trial, turned state's evidence in his testimony. Gunn claims he is from the movements of the gang from the Columbia until he was taken off the train in Richmond, Va. On instructions from Detective Strickland in Columbia Gunn stated that the rendevous of the gang was a two-story building at 715 Lady street in Cointo minute details of the Lugoff robbery and also stated that the same also said that a job was pulled off ed, and thereby saved its life.

GOVERNOR IN SUMMER HOME.

Executive.

well known young planter of Del- lina are fully aware that they are Cooper today is comfortably settled in ing the elder Mr. Cooper a great deal his summer home on Paris Mountain and he expressed himself to newspaly pleased with the place chosen for the state's summer capitol.

yesterday, the governor and his family were met at the county line by a committee of Greenville citizens who escorted him to the city.

On the mountain the governor and his family were guests of citizens at duced his pistol, and as the negro supper and today he has received numbers of friends who called upon he first knocked the knife out of the him. While here Governor Cooper man's hand, but before Cooper plans to devote as much time as pos-

STATION AT FAIRFAX.

Department of Agriculture to Fight Boll Weevil.

Washington, July 7 .- For the purpost of fighting the boll weevil the United States department of agriculture has established new stations as follows, it is announced today: Fairfax, S. C., Waynesboro and Americus, Ga., Demopolis and Tuscaloosa, Ala., Brookhaven, Miss., Victoria, Denton, Taylor and San Benito, Texas.

The department announces that the infestation by the boll weevil is heavier this year than ever before, since the appearance of the weevil with the exception of 1916.

His Preference.

A Boston Artist relates that while he was painting in an open field one day a rustic came up and stood watching him. Presently the fellow remarked:

"Purty clever, you be, mister, apaintin' two picters at wunst. But I like the one you got your thumb through best."-Exchange.

The smart set in Paris have a new hobby-that of having snakes for

explaining how they are operated and ed a commission made up of its own making suggestions with reference to citizens to supervise the work, with the authority to employ such outside expert assistants as were needed. When this commission made its report and the people recognized it as a which we have not at all suspected. its own citizens, they arose at once rural mail carrier on route No. 1, "Major Jones's Courtship." J. H. material for "Uncle Remus," and but to brighten and cheer the world. here. One of the most valuable of just as effectively if we are willing bride, Miss Eunice Clark, of Heinefor his work, one of the most interest- Peace to his ashes.—Larry Gantt in these surveys has been made by a to face things as they really are."— mann, and they are now boarding

ACCIDENTS AT SPRINGFIELD.

"Skeet" Fulmer Injured - Infant Nearly Drowned.

Springfield, July 7.—The "Glorious Fourth" did not pass without an accident, for as night drew near, news came that Leslie Fulmer, star base ball player, locally known as "Skeet," had been thrown from a "racer" and had his skull fractured. Mr. Fulmer has been carried to a Columbia hospital, and the fractured part of his skull removed, with a fair chance of recovery as reported.

Only a few days ago, while bathing at the power house dam, near Springfield, Hamlin Gleaton, a small boy. threw his wet shirt over one of the feed wires, and when he went to remove the same the power of the electricity held him fast until the power had been turned off. He was not seriously injured, although for the time being he was helpless to pull away from the garment that simply lay across the wire.

An act of unusual thought and presence of mind, was that of little Bryce Gleaton, in saving the life of Fickling Foy, an infant child of less than three years, who was allowed to go with his somewhat larger brother to the power plant bathing grounds, where the small child was left in the automobile with the usual injunction to remain where he was while the Pennsylvania and gives an account of older boys bathed. Unseen, the small tot made his way to a deep pool betime he claims to have joined it in low the dam, where he jumped in, and when seen was floating down stream with his feet up. James Bryce Gleaton, a boy of 12 or 14 years, happened to be somewhere in the neighborhood, and noticing the drowning child, succeeded in reaching him and carrying the child to the shore.. With rare presence of mind, he caught the then-unconscious child by the feet, gang took part in the robbery at and by heroic shaking, emptied its Cope, S. C., Heath Springs, S. C., and stomach of the water it had swallow-

Herbert Sanders, a negro laborer on one of the plantations of H. G. Cooper, was shot yesterday by R. G. Cooper, Jr., while the negro man was attempting to cut young Mr. Cooper with a large knife, it is alleged. From the meager information at hand, it Greenville, July 10 .- Governor appears that this man had been givof trouble of late, and he sent his son, H. G. Cooper, Jr., out to one of his plantations to see this man. While on the way to the farm he met Sanders in the public road, and When he arrived in his automobile attempted to reach some understanding with negro, when, without warning, the negro drew a large knife, and began advancing on young Cooper, who retreated to his automobile, that was standing near by, where he pro-Sanders again advanced on Cooper, could obtain possession of the weapon, the negro had jumped for the knife, and as he again advanced on Mr. Cooper, Cooper shot him in the

As far as is known, he was not shot otherwise, as he reached a nearby swamp and disappeared.

MANY SOLDIERS LEAVING CAMP.

About Fifty Per Cent. Asking For Discharge.

According to an announcement by Capt. Thomas C. Beck, personnel adjutant at Camp Jackson, about 50 per cent. of the enlisted men of the post are applying for discharge.

Some organizations report a lessening of around 20 per cent., while others run as high as 65 per cent. of its personnel requesting discharge.

Major DuPont B. Lyon, camp adjutant, said that one organization commander had intimated that of his regiment consisting of about 1,200 men, over 900 had applied for discharge, while a small detachment of 48 had 16 left.

All men serving a three year enlistment who entered the army prior to June 4, 1920, are receiving \$100

There will be a few sage soldiers left, it seems, for at least some time. One private confided yesterday that he was contemplating getting out, but wired home asking how things were and got the reply that they "were in the bread line." Therefore the soldier decided to serve at least his remaining three months at Camp Jackson.-Columbia State.

Cope, July 9 .- Newton M. Bull,