

LAURENS BOY ON THE WATER,
George Elledge, of the Ware Shoals Section, Writes of His Travels on the Ocean.

The Advertiser is in receipt of the letter below written by a Laurens county boy, Geo. H. Elledge, to his father, Mr. Porter Elledge, who lives over near Ware Shoals. Mr. Elledge writes interestingly of his travels and doubtless his letter will be of interest to his friends and other readers of the paper. His letter, received several weeks ago by his father, is as follows:

Dear Dad:
This letter was written in December but was never mailed because I was rambling around so much it slipped my mind. Perhaps a copy of it will give you an idea where I have been and what I have been doing since leaving home last July. I arrived in New York July 18, 1916 with the intention of going to Boston but after taking a stroll around I changed my mind. I had been in New York three times before so by that I was no stranger. I awoke early next morning at Bakers Park watching the last ocean liners pass in and out, trying to decide which way I was going, across or to South America, when a chaiman hand stopped me on my shoulder and asking if I wanted to sign as water tender to steam America, I informed him that I would try a shot at anything one time so he asked me to come at 10 o'clock. I did and found her to be an American steamer bound to Georgetown, British Guiana via British West Indies, so I decided to try her out because I had the ocean blues again. We sailed July 19th. Our first port was Barbados, Barbados being a small island about 100 miles east of Haiti. This is the island on which San Pedro was destroyed in 1902 by a volcanic explosion. The old lava bed flows are still to be seen but the town is now rebuilt. These West Indies Islands are all of volcanic origin. Sometimes you see one that is only a peak rising out of the water to a height of several hundred feet. Martinique is only a small island. We spent 2 days in Port de France which is a town of 10,000 or 50,000 inhabitants, mostly all white. Sometimes you see a few negroes. From here we sailed to Barbados and from there to Venezuela. Our job was the same as giving me the first voyage, medicine and coal at Trinidad then to Georgetown. From here we returned via San Juan to a British naval station for lumber and supplies. Ships are loaded differently than they are in the states. Here in place of having to dump it into the hold for storage, negro women carry it about the ships in baskets on their heads, each one carries a brass creek for each basket and as odd accordingly. A 1000 ton vessel requires about 1000 men working sometimes so many as 75 are working on one ship and at this rate it don't take very long to load a vessel with two or three hundred tons. We spent about ten hours in San Juan. From here our next run was to Grand Turk, on the northern coast of San Domingo. There are three different ports here—Grand Turk, Salt Cay and Peñon Harbor. This group is known as the Turks Island. They are very small, inhabited by negroes. We were in these ports several days loading salts to be discharged in Gloucester, Mass. This salt is obtained by evaporating the sea water which is turned into large basins and left to evaporate. These basins cover several acres of land and are about 12 miles deep. All arranged so that the water can be turned on or off at any time. It requires about 5 days to evaporate the water. The salt is then gathered up and ground and sacked. We loaded 5,000 tons at three places. We were glad to get away because there is no place to go, nothing but the same rocky peaks. The islands are only coral peaks with scarcely any vegetation. The people live on first, etc. We sailed away, Nov. 24th for Gloucester, Mass., via Norfolk, Va. and arrived in Norfolk, Dec. 1st, where we received coal and supplies, steaming out again for our friend port of discharge. We arrived outside Boston light on Dec. 3rd where we waited several hours for a pilot to carry us

round. Loaded again and sailed October 5 with Georgetown our first port of discharge, but this voyage we were delayed to several more ports than the first. These being ports in Haiti, Martinique, San Lucia, returning via Turks Island, our first port was the Island of Isama off the coast of Cuba, where we employed 30 negro laborers to work the cargo and help receive coal, etc. Then we arrived Oct. 10th, spent only a few hours, then sailed for Gonavas, Haiti. In Haiti we visited the ports of Gonavas, San Marti-

Port of Prince and Oux Coyes. This is a negro republic, but at present is under martial law governed by the U. S. marines. Port au Prince is the capital and chief seaport which has a population of one hundred and ten thousand, all negroes with the exception of a few foreigners. These nations are all negroes. I did not see a mulatto in either port. While in Haiti you see lots of men, women and children in the streets with scarcely any clothing at all, especially those who live in the country and bring their products in the markets. Everything is carried on the backs of donkeys. Sometimes you see a negro with a load on his head that looks as if it might weigh a ton. From Haiti our next port was Port au Prince, Martinique, a French colony several hundred miles east of Haiti. This is the island on which San Pedro was destroyed in 1902 by a volcanic explosion. The old lava bed flows are still to be seen but the town is now rebuilt. These West Indies Islands are all of volcanic origin. Sometimes you see one that is only a peak rising out of the water to a height of several hundred feet. Martinique is only a small island. We spent 2 days in Port de France which is a town of 10,000 or 50,000 inhabitants, mostly all white. Sometimes you see a few negroes. From here we sailed to Barbados and from there to Venezuela. Our job was the same as giving me the first voyage, medicine and coal at Trinidad then to Georgetown. From here we returned via San Juan to a British naval station for lumber and supplies. Ships are loaded differently than they are in the states. Here in place of having to dump it into the hold for storage, negro women carry it about the ships in baskets on their heads, each one carries a brass creek for each basket and as odd accordingly. A 1000 ton vessel requires about 1000 men working sometimes so many as 75 are working on one ship and at this rate it don't take very long to load a vessel with two or three hundred tons. We spent about ten hours in San Juan. From here our next run was to Grand Turk, on the northern coast of San Domingo. There are three different ports here—Grand Turk, Salt Cay and Peñon Harbor. This group is known as the Turks Island. They are very small, inhabited by negroes. We were in these ports several days loading salts to be discharged in Gloucester, Mass. This salt is obtained by evaporating the sea water which is turned into large basins and left to evaporate. These basins cover several acres of land and are about 12 miles deep. All arranged so that the water can be turned on or off at any time. It requires about 5 days to evaporate the water. The salt is then gathered up and ground and sacked. We loaded 5,000 tons at three places. We were glad to get away because there is no place to go, nothing but the same rocky peaks. The islands are only coral peaks with scarcely any vegetation. The people live on first, etc. We sailed away, Nov. 24th for Gloucester, Mass., via Norfolk, Va. and arrived in Norfolk, Dec. 1st, where we received coal and supplies, steaming out again for our friend port of discharge. We arrived outside Boston light on Dec. 3rd where we waited several hours for a pilot to carry us

into Gloucester, arriving on Dec. 4th. In Salt Cay it was every day around 101 in the shade and in Gloucester it was around zero. The places where we were sleeping a few days before were all covered with ice, even the deck was all frozen over. Down in the tropics we fixed up a canvas of the over one of the hatches to sleep under, the rooms were so hot, but we soon decided that it wasn't very healthy to use it after reaching the New England states. We docked in Gloucester and were paid off so I decided to leave her as she was sold to another company and would be a month or so before she would sail again, and after that was to be put on coastwise trade. I left Gloucester for Boston, Dec. 6 and after looking around awhile I caught a train to Troy, N. Y., where I visited my old friends in Troy and Albany. Then I came on to New York where I have been ever since. Uncle Sam since Jan. 5th.

We are at present off the Virginia capes dredging and fitting in around a coast battery between Cape Charles and Cape Henry. I don't know where we will be sent to next, but I think our branch of the service will be kept busy here without going to France, at least, it looks that way.

George H. Elledge.

Kinston, Va.
U. S. S. Currituck.



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Special—10 yards good Bleaching, yard-wide for \$1.00
Special June Sale of Men's Knit Undershirt, old time prices, worth 35c 25c
Special lot Men's Palm Beach Suits at \$5.00 to \$7.50
Get your summer suit now and enjoy life.
3,000 pairs eMu's Pants going at \$1.25 \$1.48 up to \$4.98. Old time prices while they last.
Special June Sale of Men's Straw Hats at 25c, 48c, 98c, \$1.50, \$1.98
Panama Hats \$2.48 to \$4.95
Now is the time to buy your headwear. June sale of Millinery—special lot ladies Hats, fine shapes, your choice 98c
These hats are the latest creation and are special values.
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Special sale of Silk Ribbons at 10c, 15c and 25c
Big line to select from.
Men's Dress Shirts, special values, get 'em while they are hot 39c, 48c, 65c, 89c and 98c
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Big Sun Hat 25c
5 balls Sewing Thread 5c
6 cakes best Laundry Soap 25c
2 spools (good) Thread 5c
6 spools best Thread 25c
3 eakers (5c) Toilet Soap 10c
3 boxes Matches (2-500, 1-200) all for 10c
7 full (lb.) pkgs. best Soda only 25c
6 pkgs. best Washing Powder 25c

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\$1.00 bottle Wampoles Cod Liver Oil 84c
\$1.00 bottle Wine of Cardui 84c
\$1.00 bottle Swamp Root 84c
\$1.00 bottle of S. S. S. for blood 84c
\$1.00 bottle Warner's Safe Cure 84c
\$1.00 bottle Hood's Sarsaparilla 84c
\$1.00 bottle Yerkes Cod Liver Oil 84c
\$1.00 bottle Mystic Wine of Life, for catarrh and dyspepsia 84c
\$1.00 bottle Beef Wine and Iron 84c
50c bottle Electric Bitter 42c
50c bottle Dr. King's New Discovery 42c
\$1.00 bottle Mrs. Joe Pearson's Remedy for blood diseases 84c
50c bottle California Fig Syrup 42c
50c bottle Dodson's Liver Tone 39c
25c bottle Chamberlain's Diarrhoea Remedy (guaranteed) 22c
Keep a bottle in the home.
50c bottle Grove's Chill Tonic (stops chills) 42c
25c pkg. Thedford's Black Draught 15c
1 large flask Castor Oil 10c
1 large flask Turpentine 10c
1 jar Mother's Joy Goose Grease 22c
1 bottle Goose Grease Liniment 22c
35 bottle Fletcher's Castoria 29c
50c bottle Dr. Spencer's Healing Oil for cuts, sprains, bruises and pains, guaranteed 35c

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1 big cake Glycerine Toilet Soap 5c
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1 big Agate Dish Pan 25c
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1 Pie Pan, tin, special 5c
6 White Plates 45c
6 White Cups and Soucers 45c
1 lot nice Plates, Cups and Saucers, each 10c
Special lot of Lamps 25c, 39c, 45c to 89c
1 large Lamp Chimney 10c
Special sale Buggy Whips 15c, 25c to 75c
5,000 pairs Men's, Women's and Children's Hose 10c, 15c, 25c to 69c
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Ladies Silk Waists, special June sale \$1.00
Ladies' fine Serge Skirts \$2.48 to \$4.98
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