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U. S. COMMISSIONER.

Raleigh, N. C., April 18th. 1890

Hon. A. W. Tourgee,

Dear Judge,

Just after the receipt of your kind letter and the book (Gauge & Swallow) I was called away from home by the illness of my Mother, who died in January, and have since been too much out of gear to write you. Accept thanks for the book, which I read with a great deal of pleasure. I keep a set of your books, lacking those friends have borrowed and keep for me, and frequently read them over, not all but such parts as happen to strike my humor. This last no friend can borrow!

The old C. B. Shaffer, with all his crotchets, has whipped out the Harris gang and in spite of all prejudice has made the greater portion of this community acknowledge he has given the City the best P. O. service it has ever had. To quote from his "Chronicals" he is a daisy from away back. But he has buried the hatchet red with the gore of Tim Lee Harris & Upchurch and peace reigns again in our midst.

Your remarks on our Governor were apt but truth drawn too severely true! Now let me relate a little N. C. history (or what ought to be put in history but will not be) which you may not have heard. Some time ago an Episcopal Minister was introduced to our Gov. on the train and asked him if he was related to the Fowles of Fredericksburg? With an air you can imagine he replied, "I am not sure but we use the same crest!" Soon after this I met C. T. Baily in an afternoon walk and remarked to him in the course of a conversation that I had heard he sent to the Governor for a copy of the geneological tree his kinsman and Private Sec'y. had gotten up for him. He replied "I heard his Secretary had traced his ancestry into the English Peerage and found he was descended from an English Statesman named Fogleman or something of that kind and as the Biblical Record-

er always publishes what is honorable to N.C. I sent a reporter to get the tree for publication. He applied to the Governor who told him it was not finished, but the reporter was not satisfied with this answer so he went to the Library to look for himself. Saunders had Burk's Peerage and the reporter got hold of the wrong book— A list of the Convicts &c. transported from England to the Barbadoes &c. prior to 1700—and got an entirely different record. He found that on one of the ships bringing ~~con~~ convicts to the Colonies there was a man who had been convicted of ~~foge~~ forgery, a distinguished crime in those days. This fellow was so puffed up by the superiority of being able to write that he spent most of the voyage strutting the decks. His shipmates and fellow convicts, not knowing his name, called him Sir Peacock. They landed on Roanoke Island and not caring to assume the name he had disgraced in the old country he retained the one his shipmates had given him. Under the name of Peacock he planted a vineyard, erected a sawmill, dealt in agricultural products while they were yet in embryo, what we now call futures, grew rich and waxed mighty in his own conceit. Our hero(?) has shown a decided predilection for all these things even from his youth. In the course of time he raised a family, mostly girls, and when they arrived at the sparking age he held a family council and resolved the "cock" part of their American name was inelegant—therefore it was further resolved to write the family name Peafowle. Writing not being as much taught or practiced in those days as now they soon commenced to put on style and write it P' Fowle: and when in later days a Daniel came to pass judgement on his own military and civil greatness, for he aspired even to the highest honors he wrote Daniel G. Fowle." This was the reporter's version but Baily said he would not publish it unless he could get the other to publish with it. He won the Gubernatorial race, his first, but has not been eminently successful, except in disappointing his friends, as Governor.

But enough! Again thanking you for the book and letter I am,

Yours very truly,

J. R. Pinnell