

Our Heritage

A Pageant of

Local History

OUR HERITAGE
DOUBLEDAY, NEWTON, WRIGHT

NC

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Doub, Belle ; Newton, Effie ;
Our heritage : a pageant of 10



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Pageants - North Carolina
Nash County - Historical Pageant
Edgecombe County - "

Our Heritage:

A Pageant of Local History Comprising the
Counties of Nash and Edgecombe.



Designed and Written by

Belle Doub, Effie Newton, Margaret Adeline Wright

Performed by

The Pupils of the Rocky Mount Schools
and Others

in

Riverside Park, on Panther Island

ROCKY MOUNT, NORTH CAROLINA

THURSDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF JUNE

1919

NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETEEN

AT FIVE-THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

69576

Helpful suggestions rendered by Mr. F. H. Koch, Professor of Dramatic Literature of the University of North Carolina, are gratefully acknowledged.

THOMAS HACKNEY BRASWELL

Published by Evening Telegram Press -

Dedication

To the men, women, and children of Nash and Edgecombe Counties who, as makers of History in the past two years, have sacrificed willingly in the endeavor to uphold those principles of humanity which lie nearest American hearts, this pageant of local history is dedicated.

"I, the heir of all the ages, in the foremost files of time."

Tennyson.

"If community drama can stir the imagination of the people to do such things for themselves, surely cooperative liberty should flower ere long in a fairer state than any we have yet known."

—Frederick H. Koch.

Characters and Presences of the Pageant

Bugler ----- Henry Horne
Spirit of the Past ----- Leon Epstein
Rythmic Chorus ----- Lillian Braswell,
Emily Braswell, Tat Taylor, Mary Jameson Bunn, Hilda Gordon, Marjorie
Taylor, Emma Lee Wahman, Pauline Spears, Katherine Lumsden, Eliza-
beth Ward, Alice Knight, Josephine Battle.
Solo Dancer ----- Mary Helen Wahman
Duo Dancers ----- Margaret Burnette
Joe Bobbitt

THE FIRST PART.

Puritan ----- Harvey Eason
His Wife ----- Thelma Harper
Puritan Girls ----- Frances Wimberly and Mary Young Weisiger
Puritan Boy ----- Jessie Dowdy
Indian Girls ----- Hazel Short,
Helen Finch, Virginia Griffin, Ollie Green, Emily Gray Guilford, Ruth
Joyner, Tempie Tharrington, Lila Jordan, Lilly Parish, Cottie Osbourne,
Lula Proctor, Leona Davis, Agnes Slater, Minnie Robbins.
Indian Boys ----- William Whitehead,
Alexander Thorpe, Bidgood Wahman, Walter Harper, Ralph Patterson,
Lacy Gurly, Ward Campbell, James Lewis, Gordon Weeks, Ernest Griffin,
Guilford Horne, Clifton Drake, William Joyner, Matt Frye Jarman, Kenny
Sydenstricker, Roy Proctor.

THE SECOND PART.

Landlord ----- Jarold Melvin
Landlady ----- Beulah Brake
Maid ----- Kate Preddy
Man at Cider Press ----- Russell Braswell
Lord Cornwallis ----- Stanley Daughtridge
Guests ----- Irma Vause, Winnie
May Rowland, Lula Mae Keel, Sam Anderson, John Haddon, Paul James,
David Whitfield.
Red Coats ----- Perrin Harris,
Frank Butler, Chandler Eakes, X. T. Keel, Charles Willis, Jim Vause, Lyn-
wood Elmore, Lawrence Christman, Alf Weedon, Vincent Woodard,
Frank Belknap, Desmont Bulluck.

THE THIRD PART

SCENE ONE.

Minuet Dancers ----- Josephine Jenkins,
Mary Dodge, Annie Jenkins, Margaret Horne, Sallie Mercer Jones, Maud
Perkins, Ethel Battle, Thelma Clarke, Clarence Brake, Joseph Epstein
Alfred Johnston, Sidney Gardner, William Brewer, William Shaw, Jean
Thompson, Dick Thorpe.

Spectators ----- Sadie Ross,
Winnie May Rowland, Irma Vause, Lula Mae Keel, Elizabeth Alcocke,
Dorothy Diehl, Clara Long, Louise Horne, Lettie Moore, Eula Whitley,
Stanley Melvin, Mary Darrow, Susie Jones, Turner Bunn and sixteen boys
in Confederate uniforms.

SCENE TWO.

Colonel D. H. Hill ----- Clarence Brake
Captain John L. Bridgers ----- William Shaw
Corporal George Williams ----- Sidney Gardner
Thomas Fallon ----- William Brewer
John H. Thorpe ----- Dick Thorpe
Henry L. Wyatt ----- Jean Thompson
R. H. Bradley ----- Leonard Morton
R. H. Ricks ----- Emanuel Breen
Confederate Soldiers ----- Alfred Johnston,
Joseph Epstein, Fred Hunt, Kesler Spiers, John Westbrook, Garland
Batts, Julian Sanders, Thomson Croenburg, William Lancaster, Jay Pow-
ell, Dillon Rose, Robert Herring, Henry Gregory, Edwin Poole, Claiborne
Griffin, Tom Pearsall, Lawrence Lancaster.

SCENE THREE.

Yankee Soldiers ----- Jarold Melvin,
Edward Belknap, Baldy Dew, Ben Dove, Frank Carter, George Whitley,
Carl Hannah, Edward King.

SCENE FOUR.

General W. R. Cox ----- Clarence Brake
Courier ----- Joseph Epstein
Confederate and Yankee Soldiers same as in Scenes Two and Three
respectively.

SCENE FIVE.

Ku Klux Riders ----- William Robbins,
Bob Huffines, Robert Wimberly, Jasper Robbins, Ollie Jolly, Jesse Daugh-
tridge.

THE FOURTH PART.

SCENE ONE.

The Herald ----- Annie Mae Epstein
The Judge ----- Stanley Daughtridge
The Knights ----- Jasper Robbins,
Ollie Jolly, Jesse Daughtridge, Bob Huffines, Robert Wimberly, William
Robbins.
Queen of Love and of Beauty ----- Marginette Tyree
First Maid of Honor ----- Iola Parker
Maids of Honor ----- Blanche Savage,
Mary Alta Robbins, Alta Cuthrell, Elizabeth Diehl,
Six Squires

Historical Setting

"Whatever strengthens our local attachments is favorable both
to individual and national character." —Robert Southey.

With the purpose of reviving and perpetuating the memory of deeds of local interest and importance, "Our Heritage" has been designed and written. Each scene of the pageant is based on historical facts, vivified by imagination.

In the beginning of time, what is now Riverside Park was a hunting ground for the Tuscarora Indians. White man made his first appearance when Virginia settlers immigrated to this section and from these many of the people of Rocky Mount to-day are descended. As a reminder of those early days there now stands in Riverside Park an old Post House built in 1742. This Post or Half-Way House is the scene of Part Two. The descendants of these first settlers lived with no fear of foe until Lord Cornwallis and his Red Coats passed through en route to Yorktown, Virginia. Legend gives the story that as these passed a man making cider near the Tar River became frightened and jumped into the river where he remained in hiding for three days.

Passing over such important events as the visit of Washington and La Fayette, we come to the Civil War in which men from Nash and Edgecombe counties played so glorious a part. These men, some of whom are still with us, answered the first call to war and were the last to cease firing. According to both history and the report of Captain John H. Thorpe, six of our men were the first Bethel volunteers. During those first days at Bethel, enemy sharpshooters were stationed in a house near the Confederate camp and were a source of annoyance to our men. For this reason Colonel D. H. Hill passed through the company and asked Captain John L. Bridgers to have the house burned. Captain Bridgers called for six volunteers, including a non-commissioned officer and immediately Corporal Geo. T. Williams, Thomas Fallon, John H. Thorpe, Henry L. Wyatt, R. H. Bradley and R. H. Ricks stepped out. After securing matches and a hatchet the men scrambled over the breastworks and went on their mission. When about thirty yards from the camp, a volley was fired by the enemy and the men fell to the ground, Wyatt mortally wounded. The volunteers were then ordered back to camp and comrades sent out for Wyatt. At night his body was placed in a covered wagon and carried to Yorktown, where he died. Wyatt, who was from Tarboro, was the first Confederate soldier killed in the war.

While our men were at the front the army of the enemy was devastating their possessions back home. One of the chief objects of their destruction was the Rocky Mount Mill which was supplying cotton yarn to the Confederate Government. This mill, one of the oldest in the south, was first built by Joel Battle in 1818 and rebuilt in 1865. It was operated by slave labor until 1852.

Fighting to the last with an indomitable spirit was General W. R. Cox of Edgecombe County. At Appomattox, with only a remnant of soldiers left, he was still firing on the enemy when a courier came up and told him to cease firing as Lee had surrendered. From the record of Edgecombe's two sons, Henry L. Wyatt and General Cox, North Carolina can boast of being "First at

HISTORICAL SETTING

Bethel, last at Appomattox." General Cox, the father of Colonel Albert Cox, is the only surviving North Carolina Confederate General.

The white shadows of the Ku Klux Klan against the gloom of Reconstruction Days lead to a recovery from the effects of war, and the spirit of play was more and more manifest. It became a favorite custom on Thanksgiving to hold a tournament. In these tournaments the riders chose for themselves the name of some brave knight. The knight who succeeded in getting the largest number of rings on his lance had the privilege of choosing the Queen of Love and Beauty. The one who stood next to him selected the maid-of-honor and each of the others a fair attendant. The queen was then crowned and the ladies presented the regalias of their respective knights. The day ended with a ball in honor of the queen. These tournaments were held until 1908.

Nothing stands out more prominently in the history of Rocky Mount than her unparalleled progress from 1900-1910. During this decade the population increased two hundred and seventy-four per cent, schools and churches were built and the industrial life grew until Rocky Mount in reality became the "Gateway of the East."

With such a heritage as bequeathed by the gallant fathers of Civil War days there is no wonder that men from Nash and Edgecombe counties were among the first to land on French soil. From these counties have gone men and women into every branch of the service. Some of these are now returning to us, many of whom have been decorated for valor. Others have gladly given their lives for the cause they represented and now lie buried in France. We honor them for their sacrifices and along with them those who remained at home and worked just as unselfishly and untiringly in making the Rocky Mount Red Cross Chapter one of the best in the South and in every drive for loans or gifts of money these two counties went "Over the Top." Splendidly have they proven their right to claim the inheritance of their fathers.

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The Committees of the Pageant

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT.

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| Mr. T. H. Battle | Mr. W. E. Jeffreys |
| Mr. T. T. Thorne | Mr. D. J. Rose |
| Mr. H. L. Holden | Mr. W. L. Groom |

father of Dick (RT) Jeffreys

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. R. M. Wilson | Miss Mary Lee Shine |
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| Mrs. H. R. Thorpe | Miss Claude Bassett |
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- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
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- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
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COMMITTEE ON OUTDOOR THEATRE.

- | | |
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THE COMMITTEES OF THE PAGEANT

COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

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 Miss May Hunter
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Mrs. Frank P.
Mrs. W. L. Thorpe

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICITY.

Mr. J. M. Shields
 Miss Minnie Gray

Miss Susie Parker
 Miss Ila Bulluck

MARSHALS FOR THE DAY.

Edward Johnston, Chief
 Donald Vestal
 Julian Cuthrell
 Ernest Lindsey

Ashley May
 David Edwards
 Marshall Spears
 Lee Hannah

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CHARACTERS AND PRESENCES OF THE PAGEANT

People in the Crowd ----- Jessie Mae Batson,
 Madge Wheelis, Ruth Barnes, Elizabeth Jenkins, Hazel King, Isadore
 Hedgepeth, Ava Bass, Rosalind Schultz, Vivian Smith, Louise Thomas,
 Esther Sullivan, Florence Breen, Doris Ivey, Nannie Mae Fuller, Edwin
 Poole, George Greene, Claiborne Griffin, Frank Wilkinson, Harry Fowler,
 Braxton Daughtridg, Wade Taylor, D. D. Cuthrell, Gid Daniel,
 Henry Gregory, Bernard Sutton, Tom Pearsall, Ellen Lewis, and Rosa
 Coit Moore.

SCENE TWO.

The Bugler ----- Mr Henry Horne
 The Spirit of Progress ----- Emma Lancaster
 The Spirit of Learning ----- Maitland Sadler
 The Spirit of Temperance ----- Ida Belle Lancaster
 The Spirit of Recreation ----- Esther Holden
 The Spirit of Health ----- Helene Jeffreys
 The Spirit of Industry ----- Pearl Knight
 The Spirit of Religion ----- Pattie Harper
 The Handmaidens attendant on these Spirits ----- Clara Petway,
 Bessie Bartholomew, Helen Cranford, Elizabeth Grantham, Allena John-
 son, Lula Mae McLemore, Maxine Taylor, Janie Watkins, Margaret Willi-
 ford, Claude Aycocke, Josephine Harris, Una Lindsay, Mary Moore, Mamie
 Proctor, Nolia Robbins, Ellen Wilkinson, Lillian Cockrell, Minnie Moore,
 Tempe Powell, Mable Beaman, Helen Moesser, Irma Hughes, Amy Meade,
 Ella McDearman, Flora McDonald, Julia Staley, Elizabeth Taylor, Ruth
 Tucker, Annie Watson, Lucy Whitehead, Glendolyn Weaver, Mary Hend-
 ley, Carrie Drake, Ethel Farmer, Irene Hill, Ruth Hill, Ella Smith, Gracie
 Smith, Sadie Guy, Lucile Harper, Opel Shore, Mary Emma Anderson,
 Mary Louise McDearman, Frances Jenkins, Ruth Oliver, Virginia Thorpe,
 Kate Copeland, Elizabeth Dickinson, Eudora Joyner, Grace Barnes, Helen
 Cochran, Florence Breen, Katherine Morton, Nannie Mae Fuller, Cleo
 Jenkins, Betty Jenkins, Frances Jenkins, Blanche Burnette, Mamie
 Cuthrell, Mabel Skinner, Gertrude Price, Carrie Belle Jones, Lorraine Short,
 Dorothy Duty, Vira Edwards, Esther Johnson, Mildred Moore, Viola
 Baker, Beatrice Dail, Louise Goff, Pauline Waskey, Mable Dozier.

SCENE THREE.

The Soloist ----- Mr. Paul Capelle
 The Blinded French Soldier ----- Luther Whitehurst
 The Frenchman's Son ----- Emil Noble
 Red Cross Women ----- Mesdames D. J. Rose,
 J. C. Braswell, G. L. Parker, P. J. Meade, J. P. Bunn, Turner B. Bunn,
 Lee L. Gravely, W. P. Jennings, N. L. Alcocke, C. L. Porter, H. Hannah,
 X. T. Keel, W. E. Fenner, W. W. Williams, T. S. McDearman, J. W. Wei-
 siger, Joe Wimberly, W. E. Massenberg, C. H. Arrington, T. Perrett, and
 Misses Mary McDearman, B. Dunkle, Fannie Hardison, Mag Daughtridg,
 Elizabeth May, Willie Odom, Annie Mae Odom, Mary Chevass, Irene Par-
 ker, Hallie Wills Kyser, Mary Ruth Devine, Lola Steelman, Louise Wil-
 kinson, Clyde Shore, Beulah Shore, Annie Hughes Wilkinson, Annie
 Sorsby, Augusta Devine.

The Soldiers who take part in this scene are men from Nash and Edge-
 combe Counties who were in the service during the World War.

The First Part

"Ye say they all have passed away—
The race of Indian braves—
That their light canoe has vanished
From off our crested waves,
That in the forests where they roamed
There rings no hunter's shout;
Yet their name is on our waters
Ye cannot wash them out.
Their memory liveth on our hills,
Their baptism on our shore,
Our everlasting waters speak
Their dialect of yore."

—MRS. CORNELIUS SPENCER.

The First Part

The Pageant is announced by a Bugler dressed in Lincoln green who appears on the hill and blows his bugle.

The chorus appears dressed in soft, clinging white and performs a graceful, symbolic dance. At the same time the Spirit of the Past enters. Slowly and with dignity he comes to the front of the stage. His robe is of soft gray to represent the misty years of the past. In his hand he carries a scroll from which he chants in a deep voice in the rhythm of the dancers.

Ye, who are heirs of History
Made in a glorious past
By deeds of daring and boldness
Of heroes who once did tread
The banks of this same fair river
Who stood on yon shining rock;
Heard the mocking-bird sing in the tree-top,
And builded his house on the hill,—
Can ye not picture the story—
How the white-man came to this isle,
First met his Indian Brother
And offered up prayer to God?
Come with me, turn back the pages,
And live it again to-day.

The chorus and Spirit of the Past withdraw to the side of the stage.

To weird Indian music, fourteen Indian girls and four Indian boys enter. The girls perform an Indian folk dance while the boys attempt to build a fire by striking flint together. Presently up the river come four canoes with three Indians each. They come close to the island and disembark, bringing out a string of fish, which they broil over the fire. Over the hill comes a covered wagon. It stops in the background and a man dressed in Puritan dress alights, and comes forward. The Indians stop and look at him in wonder. He addresses them.

Puritan: "Friends, will you tell me where I may obtain meat and drink?"

The Indians look at him and shake their heads. He points to the fish, and indicates that he is hungry. They bring him a fish. He points to the wagon—goes back and helps his wife and two or three children alight. They come forward.

THE FIRST PART

Puritan: "Even here in the wilderness the Lord has raised up friends."
 The Indians pass around fish. The Puritans reverently bow their heads
 while the man says.

Puritan: "Let us thank God."

They eat the fish.

Puritan: "Let us ask our friends where it will be well for us to rest."
 He makes signs to the Indians, and they all go out together.

The Second Part

"No Berserk thirst of blood had they,
 No battle-joy was theirs, who set
 Against the alien bayonet
 Their home spun breasts in that old day.

No seers were they, but simple men,
 Its vast results the future hid:
 The meaning of the work they did
 Was strange and dark and doubtful then.

Swift as their summons came they left
 The plough mid-furrow standing still,
 The half-ground corn grist in the mill,
 The spade in earth, the axe in cleft."

—WHITTIER.

The Second Part

The Spirit of the Past comes forward and reads:

Encircled by unexplored forests
With fields that were fertile and kind
Our fathers learned lessons of freedom
Never taught by a British King—
The words of defiance they uttered
Brought Cornwallis over the seas
Demanding the rights of the royal
Desecrating the soil of the free.

One side of the stage is arranged to represent an old Post House. The scene shows the interior. Guests arrive on the stage coach. The other side represents the exterior and back of the Post House, where a man is making cider at an old cider-press.

Landlord (Bustling into Post House): "Get things straight. The stage is already here and it's full—six or eight to spend the night."

His wife and maid who have been busy about the place begin to draw out tables and chairs. There is a great bustle of preparation.

Landlord: "They're saying that a band of Tories led by Cornwallis hisself air on their way to Virginny. It's likely they'll invite themselves here to-night."

His wife: "Lawsy, I hopes not. They'll eat us outter house and home, and we'll have nothing to show for it."

The guests from the stage begin to come in. They carry baggage and are dressed in traveling clothes. They seat themselves at tables and drink, talking among themselves.

At the same time a man is making cider at the cider press. His attention is attracted by Redcoats appearing on the hill. They approach and he recognizes them as British soldiers. He leaves his cider press and hides behind a tree. But as they draw near, to avoid detection, he jumps into the river.

1st soldier (drawing up): "Ah, the rebels are preparing to receive us!"

(He tastes the cider).

"Fit for his majesty himself!"

(He passes cider around).

Cornwallis (seated on horse in background): "Would that all these rebels might fall into my hands. But investigate that inn. Tell them we'll honor them with our company tonight."

A Redcoat appears in the door of the inn and the wildest confusion results. The guests jump to their feet and flee. The Landlord starts toward the soldier then reconsiders and follows the others.

When the inn is deserted the soldier returns to Cornwallis laughing.
They go out.

The Third Part

"How many a glorious name for us
How many a story of fame for us
They left. Would it not be a blame
for us,
If their memories part
From our land and heart,
And a wrong to them, and a shame
for us?"

But their memories e'er shall
remain for us,
And their names, bright names,
without stain for us,
The glory they won shall not wane
for us,
In legend and lay
Our heroes in gray
Shall forever live over again for us."

—FATHER RYAN

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—FATHER RYAN.

The Third Part

The Spirit of the Past comes forward and chants:

Once more I turn my scroll and read
Of years of peace and growth our fathers spent,
When freed from England's power,
Till once again came war's loud call,
And o'er the south men rose to fight,
And gave their lives for their just cause.
But in all the land, none came more willingly,
None fought more gallantly, nor died more gloriously,
None loved the cause, nor sacrificed their all
As did the sons of these two counties—
First at Bethel, last at Appomattox.

SCENE ONE.

TO ARMS!

The scene is introduced by military music.

Eight girls and eight boys dressed in Confederate uniform saunter down hill in two's talking to each other. These are followed by crowd composed of sixteen additional boys in uniform, old men, women and children. The boys in lead stack their muskets and with their girls form and dance the minuet. Bugle call is heard in the distance. Boys bid girls farewell, take their muskets and march over hill. Crowd follows waving last good-byes.

SCENE TWO.

FIRST AT BETHEL.

Camp of Confederate Soldiers. Boys engaged in camp activities. Colonel D. H. Hill rides up.

Colonel Hill: "Captain Bridgers, can't you have that house burned?"
(Points in direction of house and rides on.)

Captain John L. Bridgers: "Six volunteers to burn the house sheltering the enemy sharpshooters. Let one be a non-commissioned officer."

Corporal George Williams (stepping out): "I'll be the non-commissioned man."

(Immediately, the following men step out in order given: Thomas Fallon, John H. Thorpe, Henry L. Wyatt, R. H. Bradley and R. H. Ricks.)

John H. Thorpe: "Matches, boys!"

(They receive matches and a hatchet and then scramble over breastworks leaving in a run. When about thirty yards distant a volley is fired and all fall on faces except Wyatt, who is shot in forehead. Attention of men in camp attracted by volley.)

Captain Bridgers: "Men advancing, Retreat!"

(Five return leaving Wyatt on field. As the others are nearing camp the body of Wyatt is seen by one of comrades in camp.)

Comrade: "Three volunteers to go with me to bring Wyatt in."

(Three men step out and the four go for Wyatt. Bring him back to camp where stretcher has been improvised for him. He is examined while men stand by silently shaking their heads. Confederate flag is thrown over his body. He is placed in a covered wagon and carried away as taps is sounded. Comrades follow.)

SCENE THREE.

A YANKEE CONFLAGRATION.

Scouting parties of Yankees come to stage approaching from different directions. They produce their booty.

1st Yankee (holding up ham): "Well, boys, we shall feast tonight on what these folks (sarcastically) call de Country Ham."

2nd Yankee: "Drinking is better than eating." (Holds out jug). "See what I found in a cellar."

All together (holding out cups): "A trial of its strength."

(They drink and in a hilarious manner sing "Drink it down.")

3rd Yankee: "See this silver? I shall carry it back to my wife. She will glory in it."

(All laugh and drink again.)

4th Yankee to 5th: "What valuable collection have you made, Bill?"

(5th Yankee holds out cotton yarn.)

6th Yankee: "Going into Manufacturing Business when you get back, are you? Where did you find it?"

5th Yankee: "At the Rocky Mount Mill over there (pointing in direction of mill). They are sending loads of it every day to Richmond to help in this war."

3rd Yankee: "Burn the mill."

2nd Yankee (singing): "Burn it down, down, down."

All together: "Burn it down, down, down."

(They light torches and leave over hill waving them on high and singing "Burn it down, down, down." After they disappear light and smoke are seen in distance.)

SCENE FOUR.

LAST AT APPOMATTOX.

The scene opens with Yankee and Confederate soldiers firing on each other, the Confederates gradually retiring. As they reach stage the commands of General Cox ring out.

Gen. W. R. Cox: "Halt!" (The command is obeyed.)

"Right about, face!" (The command is obeyed.)

"Ready, Aim, Fire!"

(The firing continues until courier rides up.)

Courier: "Cease firing. Lee has surrendered."

(Firing ceases, the Confederates and Yankees march in different directions.)

SCENE FIVE.

KU KLUX KLAN.

Six men on horseback dressed in the attire of the K. K. K. pause, look about for miscreants and then ride a

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THE THIRD PART

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nto Manufacturing Business when you get back
it?"

Rocky Mount Mill over there (pointing in direct
g loads of it every day to Richmond to help in

he mill."

: "Burn it down, down, down."
t down, down, down."

d leave over hill waving them on high and sing
wn." After they disappear light and smoke

SCENE FOUR.

LAST AT APPOMATTOX.

Yankee and Confederate soldiers firing on ea
dually retiring. As they reach stage the comman

!" (The command is obeyed.)

THE THIRD PART

"Right about, face!" (The command is obeyed.)

"Ready, Aim, Fire!"

(The firing continues until courier rides up.)

Courier: "Cease firing. Lee has surrendered."

(Firing ceases, the Confederates and Yankees march away in different
directions.)

SCENE FIVE.

KU KLUX KLAN.

Six men on horseback dressed in the attire of the Ku Klux ride to front of
stage, pause, look about for miscreants and then ride away.

The Fourth Part

"Peace, peace, O great and holy word!
Help us, dear God, to guard it with the sword.
We want a better world than that of old.
Lead us on paths of high endeavor
Toiling upward, climbing ever,
Ready to suffer for the right,
Until we reach at last a loftier height,
More worthy to behold
Our guiding stars, our hero-stars of gold."

—HENRY VAN DYKE.

The Fourth Part

The Spirit of the Past comes forward and reads while the Rythmic Chorus accompanies him.

And then at length from out the murky depths
Of all the sordid brutishness of war
Arose respendent with celestial light
The immortal spirit—Progress—
Building anew the desolated homes,
Reviving hope in men whence it had fled;
Until no section of the state
More blessed and prosperous was than ours.
And in the city which grew and flourished
In the scanty space of a few brief years,
Evil and crime could find but little place—
Prosperity and Brotherhood dwelt there.

SCENE ONE.

THE TOURNAMENT.

Crowd assembles just back of course. Herald and Judge enter and Knights make entry at stand one by one.

Herald: (Running forward with arm raised.)

Hear! Hear! Hear!
To that most happy knight
Whose lance shall claim in tilt
The highest score in rings
Shall be a sweet award,
For he shall make his choice
Of ladies fair here gathered
And crown her Queen of Beauty and of Love.

Sir Rollo, Knight the first,
Ride! Sir Rollo, Ride!

(Sir Rollo rides.)

Herald: (announcing result) Sir Rollo, two rings.

Crowd: Well done, good Knight, well done.

Herald: Sir Sylvan, Knight the second!

Crowd: Ride! Sir Sylvan, Ride!

(Sylvan rides.)

Herald: Sir Sylvan, one!

Crowd: (Shouts.)

Herald: Sir Gawain, Knight the third!

Crowd: (cheers) Sir Gawain! Sir Gawain!

(Gawain rides.)

Herald: Sir Gawain, none!

Crowd: (Laughs.)

Herald: Sir Launfal, Knight the fourth!

Crowd: (Cries of Ride! Ride! One voice.)

Oh, ride, Sir Launfal, ride,

And choose your lady fair!

(Launfal rides.)

Herald: Sir Launfal, one!

Crowd: (Disappointed.)

Herald: Sir Wilfred, Knight the fifth!

Crowd: Now Wilfred, ring us three.

(Wilfred rides.)

Herald: Sir Wilfred (Pauses.)

Crowd: Go on! How many?

Herald: Sir Wilfred, three!

Crowd: (Shouts. One voice calls.)

Sir Wilfred, choose your queen!

Herald: Sir Cantor yet to ride!

Crowd: He cannot beat the three.

(Cantor rides.)

Herald: Sir Cantor, four and all.

(Knights ride abreast to front. Herald presents crown to Sir Cantor.)

Herald: Sir Cantor, choose of these (points to ladies):

And make the fairest

Queen of Beauty and of Love.

And you, Sir Wilfred, choose—

For you did ring us three,—

As fit attendant for her majesty

A maid who shall her Maid of Honor be.

Two Knights ride to left, two to right. Sir Cantor dismounts and chooses queen by laying crown on ground before her. Sir Wilfred dismounts, takes hand of chosen lady and leads her to queen. He takes crown from ground, hands it to Maid of Honor who places it on queen's head. King then leads queen to stage front. They are immediately followed by Sir Wilfred with Maid of Honor and four other knights with ladies chosen in meantime. Crowd follows and masses just at rear of stage. Regalias are presented by Knights to Ladies, in a simple figure.

King: And now, good Herald, go
Proclaim to all the people
Who here have seen our tournament
The King and Queen now crave
Their swift attendance at the ball.

Herald: Oh, hear, ye people all!
The King with his fair Queen
Of Beauty and of Love
Now crave your swift attendance
At their ball.

(Leads off, followed by Knights, Ladies and crowd.)

Make way! Make way!
For the Queen of Beauty and of Love
And all that in her train
Do now a loyal homage pay.
Make way! Make way!
For the Queen of Beauty and of Love.

SCENE TWO.

A DECADE OF PROGRESS.

Enter the Spirit of Progress preceded by herald and followed by her handmaidens: Learning, Temperance, Recreation, Health, Industry, and Religion. Progress is seated on her throne with three maidens on either side and herald at her feet.

Progress: Ten years ago I looked upon this town
And sought her, rich in promise, for mine own.
I saw her empty groves alive with homes,
Her open flats the site of industries;
And in my soul I heard the tramp and stir
Of myriads—trading, working, learning, living,
Praising God and making of this spot
An earthly paradise of homely joys.
I summoned then these handmaids to my aid
And they and all their kindred spirits toiled
And made my dream a certain prophecy.
Therefore, Oh Learning, call your sisters forth,
That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Learning: (At the words of Progress, "Oh, Learning," she stands forth and makes obeisance until Progress concludes. Then Learning motions Herald who, with his bugle, calls forth her attendant spirits. Twelve girls in white appear at different points in the wood and dance toward stage where they are met by Learning. They join hands, Learning in the middle, and bow before the Spirit of Progress while she speaks.)

THE FOURTH PART

C) Sir Gawain! Sir Gawain!
 (Gawain rides.)
 H rain, none!
 C s.)
 H nfal, Knight the fourth!
 C of Ride! Ride! One voice.)
 r Launfal, ride,
 your lady fair!
 (Launfal rides.)
 H nfal, one!
 C pointed.)
 H lfred, Knight the fifth!
 C lfred, ring us three.
 (Wilfred rides.)
 H fred (Pauses.)
 C How many?
 H fred, three!
 C . One voice calls.)
 l, choose your queen!
 H ator yet to ride!
 C not beat the three.
 (Cantor rides.)
 H ator, four and all.
 C breast to front. Herald presents crown to Sir Cantor.
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 he fairest
 eauty and of Love.
 ir Wilfred, choose—
 l ring us three,—
 dant for her majesty
 o shall her Maid of Honor be.

T
 queen
 hand
 hands
 queen
 Maid
 follow
 to Lac

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 The King with his fair Queen
 Of Beauty and of Love
 Now crave your swift attendance
 At their ball.

(Leads off, followed by Knights, Ladies and crowd.)

Make way! Make way!
 For the Queen of Beauty and of Love
 And all that in her train
 Do now a loyal homage pay.
 Make way! Make way!
 For the Queen of Beauty and of Love.

SCENE TWO.

A DECADE OF PROGRESS.

Enter the Spirit of Progress preceded by herald and followed by her hand-
 maidens: Learning, Temperance, Recreation, Health, Industry, and Religion.
 Progress is seated on her throne with three maidens on either side and her
 herald at her feet.

Progress: Ten years ago I looked upon this town
 And sought her, rich in promise, for mine own.
 I saw her empty groves alive with homes,
 Her open flats the site of industries;
 And in my soul I heard the tramp and stir
 Of myriads—trading, working, learning, living,
 Praising God and making of this spot
 An earthly paradise of homely joys.
 I summoned then these handmaids to my aid
 And they and all their kindred spirits toiled
 And made my dream a certain prophecy.
 Therefore, Oh Learning, call your sisters forth,
 That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Learning: (At the words of Progress, "Oh, Learning," she stands forth
 and makes obeisance until Progress concludes. Then Learning motions to
 Herald who, with his bugle, calls forth her attendant spirits. Twelve girls in
 white appear at different points in the wood and dance toward stage where
 they are met by Learning. They join hands, Learning in the middle, and bend
 before the Spirit of Progress while she speaks.)

Progress: From school house crude and method primitive
 We pass to large and stately buildings three,
 Where all the springing power of youthful minds
 Is helped to reach toward things of worth and truth.
 My loyal helpers, for a task well done,
 Be this your true reward—for you to know
 That Progress claims this lovely city here
 Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!

(These maidens stand to left of Progress.)

And now, Oh Temperance, call your sisters forth
 That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Temperance: (Action described at Learning is here repeated.)

Progress: The halls where Bacchus once his revels held
 Are closed, and now no longer spread their lure.

My loyal helpers, for a task well done
 Be this your true reward—for you to know
 That Progress claims this lovely city here
 Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!

(These maidens stand to right of Progress.)

Progress: Now Recreation, call your sisters forth
 That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Recreation: (Action described above at Learning repeated.)

Progress: I see the people playing in these parks;
 They meet at clubs and sports and pleasure halls
 And find a value in community
 Of thought and word and deed. I give to you,
 My loyal helpers, for a task fulfilled
 A just and true reward—for you to know
 That Progress claims this lovely city here
 Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!

(These maidens stand to left of Progress.)

Sweet Health, my handmaid, call your sisters forth
 That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Health: (Action described at Learning repeated.)

Progress: I see a bright and spotless city where
 The poor are nursed and laws of life are taught.
 Efficient workers fight against disease.
 My loyal helpers, for a task well done
 Be this your true reward—for you to know
 That Progress claims this lovely city here
 Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!

(These maidens stand to right of Progress.)

Go call your sisters to me, Industry,
 That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Progress:

I smell
 Where many
 The monster engi
 Shift back and fort
 While there is buying,
 And adding to the treasure
 The farmers till the good brown earth
 A big return to all who love the soil.
 My loyal helpers, maids of Industry,
 Be this your true reward—for you to know
 That Progress claims this lovely city here
 Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!

(These maidens stand to the left of Progress.)

Religion, call for me your ardent tribe
 That I may thank them for their wondrous work.

Religion: (Action described at Learning repeated.)

Progress: I love to walk beneath the Sabbath skies
 And hear the joyous chimes that call to prayer
 The answering throngs who come and offer praise.
 I love the shady length of one fair street
 Where many churches lift their spires to God.
 My loyal helpers, 'tis a task well done.
 Be this your true reward—for you to know
 That Progress claims this lovely city here
 Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!

(They take their stand at right.)

Oh citizens and friends of Rocky Mount,
 Go ever hand in hand with these true spirits
 Of Learning, Recreation, Industry,
 Religion, Temperance, Health,—and they
 Will make our Gateway City of the East
 The home of wealth; true wealth of hand and heart.

The Spirit of Progress follows her Herald who calls the Spirits and they
 hasten away to continue their magic.

The band plays The Marsellaise.

SCENE THREE.

THE AMERICANS COME!

(A blinded Frenchman speaks to his son.)

What is the cheering, my little one?
 Oh, that my blinded eyes could see!
 Hasten, my boy, to the window run,
 And see what the noise in the street may be.

THE FOURTH PART

From school house crude and method primitive
To large and stately buildings three,
All the springing power of youthful minds
Eager to reach toward things of worth and truth.
Loyal helpers, for a task well done,
Be this your true reward—for you to know
Progress claims this lovely city here
Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!
(Maidens stand to left of Progress.)

Now, Oh Temperance, call your sisters forth
I may thank them for their wondrous work.
(Action described at Learning is here repeated.)

The halls where Bacchus once his revels held
And now no longer spread their lure.
Loyal helpers, for a task well done
Be this your true reward—for you to know
Progress claims this lovely city here
Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!
(Maidens stand to right of Progress.)

Now Recreation, call your sisters forth
I may thank them for their wondrous work.
(Action described above at Learning repeated.)

I see the people playing in these parks;
They meet at clubs and sports and pleasure halls
And find a value in community
Thought and word and deed. I give to you,
Loyal helpers, for a task fulfilled
Be this your true reward—for you to know
Progress claims this lovely city here
Beside the River Tar, and gives her Growth!
(Maidens stand to left of Progress.)

Health, my handmaid, call your sisters forth
I may thank them for their wondrous work.
(Action described at Learning repeated.)

I see a bright and spotless city where
The poor are nursed and laws of life are taught.
The rent workers fight against disease.
Loyal helpers, for a task well done
Be this your true reward—for you to know
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Oh, that my blinded eyes could see!
Hasten, my boy, to the window run,
And see what the noise in the street may be.

THE FOURTH PART

Progress: From school house crude and method primitive

We pass to large and stately buildings three,

Where all the springing power of youthful minds

Is helped to reach toward things of worth and strength,

My loyal helpers, for a task well done, proud hue;

Be this your true reward—for you to kneel along,

That Progress claims this lovely citadel of blue.

Beside the River Tar, and give white stars on blue—

(These maidens stare—where there stripes of red and white?

It must be, yes, it must be true!

Oh, dear God, if I had my sight!

Hasten, son, fling the window wide:

Let me kiss the staff our flag swings from

And salute the Stars and Stripes with pride

For God be praised, the Americans come!

—FAY FOSTER.

Singer comes to stage and takes stand at right side almost hidden by plants, etc. Red Cross women come in and take seats just at side back of stage and fold bandages, knit, and do canteen work. Blinded French soldier is led on stage by little French boy who has a loaf of bread and bottle of milk. He opens parcels, cuts bread, and as the man seats himself at table, the tramp of soldiers and beating of drums is heard. The boy and man listen intently, and the boy runs to (the window) back stage and looks off toward sounds. The singer begins the song, "The Americans Come," and the boy and man accompany the words with suitable gestures. By the time the singer has finished the soldiers are just back of stage. They halt, face stage, and return salute of French soldier. Then standing at attention, they sing the Star Spangled Banner. The women in the background stand and join in without leaving work. The spectators are also earnestly requested to join in the singing of this song.

At the end the drums beat and all march off, the soldier and the boy running alongside soldiers; the women bringing up rear.

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