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Earl Moore

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Strings and Voices  "College Heights."

Moore  Western Kentucky State Teachers College greets you all both
great and small with the words of our college motto — —

Voices  Life More Life.

Moore  Life More Life is our motto and our wish for all our listeners.

Piano  Chords.

Strings  "Scherzo."

Moore (against music)  "Scherzo," by Franz Schubert.

Moore  Our string ensemble, under the direction of Chester Channon,
has just played Schubert's "Scherzo." The student members are Frank
Yarbrough, Norma Largura, Laura Salt, Barbara Ford, Walter Morris,
Janet Rutan, and John Farris. Mr. Channon, at the piano, signals the
start of another number. This time we hear "Two Finnish Folk-Songs,"

by Novacek.

Strings  "Two Finnish Folk-Songs."

Moore  And so that's the finish of the "Finnish Folk-Songs." Thank
you, Mr. Channon.

Ladies and gentlemen, one of the most interesting bits of territory
in our whole country, historically considered, lies in a triangular
section on the eastern coast of Virginia, near Chesapeake Bay. Probably
many of our listeners have participated in the annual pilgrimage to
Williamsburg, sponsored by the Association for the Preservation of
Virginia Antiquities, on May 13th, or are planning to do so next May.
We have asked a member of our History Department, Dr. J. H. Poteet, to
bring us some interesting facts about what he aptly calls "Virginia's
Historic Triangle." Dr. Poteet is a native of Virginia and a graduate of the University of Richmond and later of Johns Hopkins.

**Sterrett**  Just a second, Dr. Moore. It occurs to me that "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" would put us all in the proper mood for Dr. Poteet's talk.

**Moore**  Quite right, Mr. Sterrett. With your kind permission, Dr. Poteet, we shall ask our vocalists to oblige us in this matter now.

**Mixed Quintette**  "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny."

**Moore**  The students just heard are Virginia Strohman, Martha Taylor, Mary Frances Ford, Gilbert Scarbrough, and Lawrence David. Solos by Mr. Scarbrough and Miss Taylor. Miss Chisholm at the piano.

And now we are ready for the discussion of "Virginia's Historic Triangle." Dr. J. H. Poteet, of the Department of History of Western Teachers College.

**Poteet**  In this talk I shall speak briefly of the historic yesterday and the today of this small Virginia triangle. Out of necessity much must be left to your imagination.

Nearly three hundred thirty-one years ago this historic triangle of Jamestown, Williamsburg, and Yorktown had its beginning. It was May 13, 1607, that a small group of Englishmen, after a long and trying sea-voyage, planted Jamestown, which from the start was doomed to be a deserted village because of the unhealthful location. However, in its brief existence as the Capital of the Virginia colony, its place in history was assured, mainly because of three things—as the first English settlement to survive, the story of Pocahontas, the make-believe ancestor of many Americans, and the home of the first representative government in America. Together they made Jamestown the Cradle of the future Republic.
The second part of this historic triangular area, Williamsburg, literally rose to a place in history out of the ashes of a burned Capitol in Jamestown. Originally Williamsburg was known as Middle Plantation, located midway between the James and York rivers, yet accessible to both by navigable creeks. During its life as Middle Plantation only two events of major interest occurred. The first was Bacon’s Rebellion in 1676, the significance of which was that it was the first organized movement against tyranny in America and the forerunner of a similar but successful one in the same place in 1776. The second event was the founding in 1693 of the free school and college of William and Mary, the first with Royal consent and the second in America. Middle Plantation at the end of the seventeenth century was composed of a church, a college and several farmhouses.

In 1698 the General Assembly, chiefly through the influence and effort of Lieutenant Governor Francis Nicholson, made Middle Plantation the Capital of the Virginia colony, because it was more healthful and suitable than Jamestown, and renamed it Williamsburg in honor of their King William III. No time was wasted in getting the new Capital city under way. The first idea was to survey it in the form of the King’s monogram, but for reasons unknown a simpler plan was followed. The center was a broad street running east from the college for seven-eighths of a mile to the Capitol building, later named the Duke of Gloucester street after Queen Anne’s son. It was flanked by two streets on the north and two on the south and with several cross streets dividing it into some fifteen blocks. The body of the town and its two ports, Queen Mary and Princess Anne, comprised 233 acres, later increased to more than 300. The land was portioned out in one-half acre lots so that each building would have sufficient air, light and privacy.
from neighbors. The stationary population was never more than 2,000 but when the General Assembly or the General Court was in session it frequently increased to 5,000 or more. The Capitol and the Palace were the finest government buildings in the colonies. Both were brick structures of two stories with dormer-windowed attics. Tall spires and cupolas gave them stately beauty. The Palace with its many buildings, such as the governor’s offices, the servants’ quarters and kitchen, and its magnificent formal gardens gave the appearance of Royalty transferred to America. The Capitol, an H-shaped building, housed the branches of government, such as the House of Burgesses, the Council and the General Court. Other buildings of distinction were: Wren Hall of the College of William and Mary, designed by Sir Christopher Wren; Bruton Parish Church, the religious capitol of the colony, and Raleigh Tavern, one of the most unique and historic of all colonial taverns, to which the angry Burgesses frequently retired when dissolved by a displeased Fauquier, Botetourt or Dunmore, and in whose Apollo room in 1776 the Phi Beta Kappa Society was organized by William and Mary students. Williamsburg’s theaters were also well known, not only in the colonies but in London. Levingston’s theater was the first play-house in America. The second theater presented players from other colonies and from London, such as the Hallam Players who gave the leading tragedies of Shakespeare. These with many other public and private buildings, public greens and private gardens made Williamsburg a fine colonial Capital. The closing chapter in the colonial life of Williamsburg was as the Cradle of the Revolution. It was here that the most persistent opposition to British tyranny was offered. Here Patrick Henry first kindled the flames of the revolution in his proposals and Caesar-Brutus speech against the Stamp Act. Here the House of Burgesses appointed the first committee to correspond with
the other colonies, out of which eventually came the First Conti-
tinental Congress. Here the Virginia delegates were unanimously
instructed to move that the Congress declare the colonies free
and independent states. Shortly thereafter, for reasons of safety,
the Capitol was moved to Richmond and Williamsburg gradually palled.

The Third part of this historic triangle was Yorktown, whose
place in history rests mainly on one thing, the siege of Yorktown,
which resulted in the surrender of Cornwallis and the end of English
control in America, thus marking the little village as the birthplace
of American independence.

I turn now to the today of this historic triangle. Two of
the parts, Jamestown and Williamsburg, are simply landmarks pointing
out to the traveler, the birthplace of the Republic and where its in-
dependence was won. Jamestown is, and doubtlessly will remain to the
American people what the place of birth is to the individual American—
a pleasant memory even though the old house itself disappears—and such
is the case with Old Jamestown. For some years past the Association for
the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, aided by the Daughters of the
American Revolution, the Colonial Dames, and the National Government,
has been placing appropriate markers, not as tombstones, but as stimuli
to the memory and imagination of the visitor as he or she strolls through
the site of the palisaded town. At Yorktown the United States Parks
Service is performing a similar task. The site of the thirteen day
siege has been set apart as the Colonial National Monument and Moore
House, in which the capitulation papers were drafted and signed, has
been restored. A broad scenic passenger highway, now under construction,
will connect these shrines with Williamsburg.
The today of Williamsburg is quite different from that of Jamestown and Yorktown, the purpose being not merely to preserve but to restore the colonial Capital that existed between 1699 and 1780. This is undoubtedly the most novel bit of restoration in the United States. But how did the idea originate? In 1902 Dr. Goodwin became the rector of Bruton Parish Church. He was thoroughly shocked at its condition and immediately set out to restore it to its 18th century beauty. During the progress of the restoration he became obsessed with the idea of a restored Williamsburg. For years he studied and schemed wondering how his dream could be fulfilled. In 1925 he outlined his plans to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., so convincingly that Mr. Rockefeller agreed to undertake the project, and today, Old Williamsburg is rising phoenix-like from its colonial past. But before the actual rebuilding could be started it was necessary to know just what made up old Williamsburg: its plan, its architecture, its materials, its furnishings and its buildings. Experts were set to work to find this information. Every stage of the work has been slow, for accuracy in every minor detail is essential to success. Now, after ten years of laborious work and an approximate expenditure of $20,000,000, the restoration is moving toward completion, except for those features which time must complete. At any rate, from now on, we shall be able to see the things, which we have so frequently been told were gone forever. We may see where Patrick Henry uttered his Caesar-Brutus speech, where Jefferson and Marshall developed their theories of government, the powder magazine from which the removal of powder by Lord Dunmore set off the revolution in Virginia, the Apollo room where Jefferson danced with his fair Belinda, the Wren
building, the only one in America designed by the Architect of London, Bassett Hall where the Irish poet, Thomas Moore, wrote "To a Firefly," the magnificent boxwood and the elaborate furnishings of the Palace, Raleigh Tavern, and many private homes. Yes, this historic triangle lives again, but for what specific purpose? It furnishes a visual record of the life and history of the Virginia colony, which played one of the main roles in early American history. Furthermore, this record is now at the disposal of the general public, the historians and the students of colonial gardens, architecture, furniture, and decorations. It supplies a shrine where the great events of colonial history and the lives of many of the men who made it may be visualized in their proper setting. Recently a leading national magazine, in its Williamsburg issue carried commercial advertisements of colonial glass, furniture and decoration, and photographic displays of colonial houses and gardens that can be copied. These advertisements and the registration of visitors for the past several years are rather sufficient proof that what was once Virginia's historic triangle is today America's historic triangle.

Moore: Thank you, Dr. Poteet. I've never been at Yorktown, Jamestown, or Williamsburg, but now I'm certainly going to put them on my itinerary.

Mr. Channon, what does your list call for next from the string ensemble? Mine says Haydn's "Arietta."

Strings: "Arietta."

Moore: And now "Serenata," by Moszkowski.

Strings: "Serenata."

Moore: So concludes the seventy-third program in this series coming to you each Tuesday from the campus of Western Teachers College, in
Bowling Green. Dr. J. H. Poteet of the Department of History discussed "Virginia's Historic Triangle." Music emanated from our regular staff of student musicians, with Mr. Channon directing.

And now, Mr. Sterrett, will you reveal what is in store for us next Tuesday?

Sterrett Besides music again by the same group, there will be an informal symposium on "What It Takes to Run a College."

Moore Well, among other things, I guess it takes a great deal of bread and meat.

Sterrett Yes, but it takes many other sorts of supplies and very careful administrative planning. There is instruction, for the sake of which a college exists; there are sometimes homesick students to be soothed, lovesick students to be comforted, and just plain sick students to be doctored. There are buildings to be maintained, grounds to be cared for, books to be circulated, laboratories to be kept going, and so on ad infinitum. Hear about many of these things next Tuesday at 3:30 o'clock C. S. T.

Strings "College Heights," fading for:

Moore On behalf of Western Teachers College this is Earl Moore saying goodbye until next Tuesday and wishing you Life More Life.

(Strings up and continue)