

United States Press Representatives' Visit To St. Croix, Virgin Islands, U. S. A.

THURSDAY February 21st, 1924.

AS REVIEWED BY BUMBLE BEE EN ROUTE

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(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

Quite near by and nearer the road we passed two pillars which is a sure indication of the entrance to some old plantation of bygone influence. To be seen among clump of trees in the distance is the ruin of the great house of Estate "Golden Rock", here in the very first years of the last century lived and died widow Judith Towers, upon this same estate inherited from her husband. When in the fulfilment of time she passed to the great beyond she left a very long and interesting testament as to the disposition of her affairs. First providing for the liberation of her numerous domestics in her home she made liberal allowances for the welfare and comfort together with an annuity to be paid during their life time. The Manager of the Estate, Mr. James Forbes was also liberally provided for as she directed that he was to receive three thousand pieces of eight, and requested that he be continued as manager of the estate as long as he chose and that his riding horse be presented to him and as well "that his linen be made, mended and washed by my sempstresses and washers." She did not forget the churches leaving each in town substantial sums for those days particularly thanking as the will puts it. "The settlement of the Moravian Brethren in Friedensthal in testimony of the attention in instructing my people", and further, "I bequeath to the poor of the Church of England in Christiansted the yearly sum of three hundred pieces of eight to be paid to them every Easter Monday". This sum was later converted to three hundred Rix Dollars which is equivalent to \$300 of the present currency and made as an obligation against Estate "Golden Rock". This provision is still effective as a charge against Estate "Golden Rock" as the late owner from twenty years ago carried a lawsuit to the Supreme Court in Copenhagen in an effort to annul the bequest upon the plea that the estate did not produce that revenue now, but each court sustained the terms of the will as an obligation on the present owner of the estate. Besides "Golden Rock" she possessed what she termed my "East End Plantation" called "Parrara" and her garden called "Folly", the latter adjoining the Moravian settlement and directing that the properties in future be known under the name of "Towers". This clause of the will was duly fulfilled as evidenced by the recent survey of the island under direction of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey according to their map of the island published in May, 1923, which places "Towers" north of Mt. Washington in the eastern part of the island and "Towers" just before we enter Christiansted western suburb upon our way into town. This interesting document is on file in the Probate Court of the island.

We now mount an easy grade to the top of "Evening Hill" from where the view toward the town with the picturesque Quay with the waves beating upon the reef and the general look out is a most charming picture. And now down the grade to the right is seen Estate "Little Princess" with sugar works, great house and a cluster of buildings as of olden days. For here is in evidence of very long ownership with very little change for many years.

Our next point of interest is "La Grand Princess", a large sugar plantation that remained as an inheritance in the family of the original owner Count Adam Gotlob Moltke, a worthy of many titles for over one hundred and fifty years until purchased about 1893 by that patriotic citizen of Denmark the late G. A. Hagemann of Copenhagen who then purchased the properties "La Grand Princess" here mentioned and as well Estate "La Grange" near Frederiksted, disposing of "Princess" to his brother G. H. Hagemann, who later resold it through his attorney here to the present owner one of our oldest and most respected inhabitants, Mr. C. E. Leevy, who has rented the land to a group of most industrious small farmers of the laboring class. A strong evidence of what can be done if it will be done by the tillers of the soil; Mr. Hagemann confined his energies to Estate "La Grange" acquiring additional acreage and erecting a most modern factory upon the property equipped, changed and reequipped constantly as any new device or process appeared upon the market to make his St. Croix Plantation a model of successful operation with the object of gaining the last ounce of saccharine present in the cane and its economical manufacture as the result of a wager to prove the ability of St. Croix as a sugar producer and to silence certain "croakers," in Denmark who advanced the theory that the island was exhausted from an agricultural view point. This Mr. Hagemann certainly proved and the good work is now being carried on by the new owners "La Grange Sugar Factory", the principals of which led by Mr. G. B. Fleming, acquired the property some two years ago.

(To be continued.)

NOTICE.

MEMBERS of the Turf Club are asked to show a little interest by attending a meeting to be held at the Manager's house at Friedensborg on SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 23RD INST. AT 3 O'CLOCK. Important business to be discussed.

H. McKAY.

Notice of Auction

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT ESTATE OF WILLIAM ROCK, DECEASED, AND LATELY DECEASED WIFE, HELELINDA ROCK.

AT the request of Lawyer D. HAMILTON JACKSON, as attorney for MARY MARTIN, the administratrix of the above entitled estate, and pursuant to an Order of District Court of the Virgin Islands of the United States, dated the 19th day of February 1924, the following chattels belonging to the said estate will be offered for sale at a public auction to be held at No. 17 Church Street in Christiansted on **SATURDAY, the 29th of March, 1924, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon**

1 Mahogany Card Table; 1 Side Board; 1 Half Press; 1 Round Table; 1 Glass Table; 1 Bedstead with mattress and Pillows; 1 sitting Chair; 2 Office Chairs; 1 Rocking Chair; 1 Easy Chair; 1 Garden Chair; 1 Board Safe; 1 Board Table 1 Water Jar; 1 Lamp; 1 Trunk; 1 Male Donkey; 1 Cart; 3 Mules.

Conditions and terms of sale will be made known at the time of the sale.

Christiansted's Vendue-Office, St. Croix, 19th March 1924.

C. H. PAYNE,
Vendue-Director.

Fee Fr. 10. }
Say ten Francs. }

LOCAL

The Colombian s. s. Paria from New York arrived at Frederiksted early yesterday bringing 19 bags mail for Christiansted which were received at noon.

Sloop Mizpah on return trip from St. Thomas not yet arrived.