

# GEO. VANDERBILT TABLET WILL BE DEDICATED AT PISGAH FOREST TODAY

**Large Crowd Expected to Attend Exercises to Be Held This Morning at 11 o'Clock—Short Addresses Will Be Made and the Bronzed Tablet Placed at Entrance.**

A large number of people from Asheville and from various sections of the United States are planning to attend the dedication exercises to be held this morning at 11 o'clock at the entrance to Pisgah forest, when the bronzed tablet, erected to the memory of the late George W. Vanderbilt, will be placed. The trip will be made by motor, the scene being little more than one hour from Asheville. Following the exercises those attending will make a trip over the park and many of them plan to visit the inn on top of Pisgah for luncheon.

The tablet will be placed at the entrance to the Pisgah National forest, formerly owned by the late George W. Vanderbilt, and will be given in memory of the part the late master of Biltmore played in forestry development of this country.

Started here on June 11, 1916, when a resolution introduced by George S. Powell was adopted by the Southern Forestry congress, the movement rapidly gained in favor, but owing to the world war, which was then in progress, the matter was held in abeyance until the end of the war. The tablet is of solid bronze, 12 2/4 inches and contains the following inscription:

Pisgah National Forest  
This portion, eighty-three thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight acres was formerly Pisgah Forest established by George W. Vanderbilt in 1891 and the earliest example of forestry on a large scale on private lands in America.  
Acquired by the United States  
21st May 1914

The local forestry department has been co-operating in every way possible, and a large bowler, weighing several hundred pounds, has been brought down to the entrance to the forest, and on this the tablet will be placed. A large mound of earth has been erected there and the evergreens will form a beautiful background for the bowler. The forest service will take charge of the bowler as soon as the dedication exercises are over, and the surrounding grounds will be beautified in accordance with the mound and bowler.

Mr. Powell, secretary of the committee, stated yesterday that representatives of the American Forestry association, Southern Forestry association, N. C. Forestry association, the Appalachian Park association and other representative bodies will be asked to be present. An invitation has been extended to Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt to be present for the occasion.

Associated with ex-Governor Craig and Mr. Powell in the work of the committee, Verne Rhodes, forester of the local station, has given valuable assistance.

The resolution referred to reads as follows:

"Resolve, That this meeting endorse the idea of erecting a tablet at the entrance to Pisgah National forest for the purpose of reciting and commemorating the historic facts in connection with the development of this forest by George W. Vanderbilt under a system of scientific forestry, and the taking over of this forest by the national government."

"And be it further resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed by the president of the Southern Forestry con-

gress with authority to raise necessary funds and erect said tablet."

The committee named to collect funds and erect this tablet is as follows:

Governor Locke Craig, chairman; W. A. Holmes, Smithsonian institute, Washington, D. C.; Dr. George F. Kunz, president the American Scenic and Historic Preservation society, 410 Fifth avenue, New York city; Geo. S. Powell, secretary-treasurer; Chas. Lathrop Pack, president Southern Forestry association, Lakewood, N. J.; Henry S. Graves, forester, Washington; Joseph Hyde Pratt, president Southern Forestry congress, Chapel Hill, N. C.

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