

THE TIMES.

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DUNN, Barnett County, N. C.

DUNN, N. C., DECEMBER 5, 1894.

FARMERS will doubtless get enough of five cent cotton by planting the next spring and instead of planting the largest part of their ground in cotton will put it in corn, potatoes and grain. If they will only plant what cotton they can cultivate with their own force and stop using so much guano and make meat and bread for their own use it will not be long before they will again be on the road to prosperity and plenty.

If our land owners could sell their land at the price that George W. Vanderbilt paid to Wm. J. Coke, of Asheville a few days ago it would be worth something to them. The price paid was seventy thousand dollars spot cash for three hundred and forty-four acres. When Vanderbilt gets his eye on anything money is no object.

A successful Georgia farmer recently called a meeting of the farmers of his county and passed resolutions that they plant only a small acreage in cotton, and make their home supplies. If this should fail to raise the price of cotton to a profit point it will leave the farmer in a condition to live at home, and keep himself out of debt.

It is to be hoped that Congress will pass a law at an early day prohibiting "trash" from other countries being heaped upon our shores. The immigration of the cut-throats from other lands into our country is one of the greatest curses that was ever put upon the American people.

The sugar manufacturers in the North seem to be enraged over the action that Congress is expected to take on the sugar question. We take the following item from the Atlanta Constitution:

Washington, December 1.—It begins to look like the old sugar fight will open up as soon as congress meets. The action of the trust in closing down its refineries and throwing its employes out upon the world just as winter comes on, has arrayed many of its former senatorial friends against it, and the senate may pass the free sugar bill. Even Senator Smith, the man who fought so hard for the trust last session seems to have turned against it. In an interview in the Newark News to-day he says:

"After receiving all the consideration they were entitled to, these refineries now turn around and announce that they are going to close their factories and throw thousands of men out of employment in mid-winter, on twenty-four hours notice. They are doing this for political effect and nothing else. By doing so they expect to force the senate of the United States into doing what they desire."

"I am satisfied from my inquiries into the subject in Germany, that there is no necessity for this action whatever, and I do not hesitate to say now that if these men in my state who have been thrown out of employment are not put back at once, I shall move next week in the Senate to take up the free sugar bill, and I shall do everything in my power to make the bill a law."

They say these factories are closed because of the action of Congress. I say there is no ground for such an assertion, but if they are kept closed there will be in a very short time. If they fulfill their threats to shut down these factories in mid-winter on the professed belief that the Senate will pass the free sugar bill, then I am in favor of taking them at their word and giving them free sugar as quickly as it can be enacted."

This is the kind of talk which is w-ounded by the great masses of Democrats in Congress. If a vote is obstructed on the bill in the Senate, the people will have free sugar and that very soon.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Special Correspondent of Central Times.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 1st, 1894. Monday Congress meets in a recessed condition. About 100 Congressmen are in the city. Senator Jarvis will be here Saturday night. Senators Hanson and Hon John S. Thompson generally arrive tomorrow of the day on which Congress convenes. Hon. Thomas Settle was here several days ago. Monday Congress will meet and adjourn unless the President's message is ready to be transmitted to that body. Mr. Cleveland said to-day the message would be ready by Monday.

A number of defeated members of Congress sent here for their mileage, saying they would not come to Washington this winter. The request was refused, as it should have been.

Judge Gudgeon, of the Treasury Department, has called my attention to a paragraph in one of the Washington papers which states that Hon. N. S. O. Robinson, of Goldsboro, and who was at the recent election made a judge of the Superior Court, is the only Catholic who has ever been elected to public office in North Carolina. The judge states that this is a gross error and does great injustice to the people of the State.

He says it is true that by the Constitution of the State adopted in 1776 Catholics could not hold public offices but the Constitution formed in 1835 did away with the restriction, and since then Catholics have been as eligible as other citizens to office holders. He further says that this change came about greatly by the efforts and influence of the Hon. Wm. Gaston, of Newbern, who was one of the most eminent judges of North Carolina. Soon after the Constitution of 1835 was adopted, Mr. Gaston, who was a Catholic, was elected one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the State, which position he filled with very great ability and satisfaction to the people, until his death several years after.

Hon. Matthias S. Hanley, another Catholic, was for many years a judge of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity, and about 1856 or '57 was elected an associate justice of the Supreme Court, which office he filled very acceptably, until the reorganization of the State Government under the re-construction acts of Congress, after the late war.

Hon. W. A. Moore, of Edenton, was appointed a judge of the Superior courts of the State by Gov. Caldwell about 1872, to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Judge Jones, and continued in office until the expiration of the term in 1878. Judge Moore was also a Catholic. The Judge informs me these facts are of his personal knowledge, except as to Judge Gaston, as the other gentlemen were personal acquaintance and friends of his, as is also Judge Robinson, recently elected. The Judge calls my attention to the fact, that there are but few Catholics in the State, the number as shown by the census of 1890 being 2,640, and links no one can consider these as any prejudice or feeling against Catholics in North Carolina, when out of such small numbers of communicants of that church four men have been elevated to very high offices. Other instances might be given of persons of the Catholic faith occupying positions of trust in the State.

The report of the Postmaster General shows that there has been a decrease of one per cent., in the receipts of the postal revenue, instead of the average annual increase of eight per cent. The postmaster general says that because of the recent extension of the protection of the civil service within the classified service is 32,661. In speaking of the lines for this government to follow he says: "I believe it to be a true policy for this government to continue for a number of years the development of the postal service on the present lines."

In general I would recommend that the first and most important thing to be done is to revise the laws as to the second-class mail matter, so as to place the Post Office Department immediately upon a self-sustaining basis.

Avoid expensive experiments, like the postal telegraph rural free delivery, etc.

Develop the postal service on existing lines of administration, viz:

Extend free delivery in cities that now enjoy it.

Accord it to towns already entitled to it under the law.

Quicken railroad transportation. Revise and re-classify organizations of the railway mail service, and re-classify clerks in Post offices.

Provide for strict supervision of all postal affairs by a pointment of expert postal officials from classified service, as recommended in my last

annual report. Private Secretary Thurber said to-day that the President continues to improve, and will certainly complete his message in ample time for transmission to Congress on Monday next. It is said that the message will contain about 12,500 words, which is about the length of the regular message of last year. Unusual precautions have been taken to guard against a premature publication of the state paper.

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