

OUR TOBACCO MARKET.

WHAT OTHERS THINK OF SMITHFIELD.

Its Progress as a Tobacco Market—Something About Its Warehousemen and Corps of Buyers.

A few days ago a representative of the Richmond, Va., Southern Tobaccoist, one of the South's leading tobacco journals, visited Smithfield, and wrote the following account of this market which he published in last week's number of his paper:

That Smithfield has been a wonderful success as a loose leaf, bright tobacco market, is something that is easily proved by even a casual comparison of its not far past with its present. Four years ago this season the tobacco market was purely an experiment, backed by a few brave merchants who were far-sighted enough to see that with its peculiar advantages, Smithfield could easily be made a leader. That their confidence was not misplaced is proven by the following figures: In 1898 this, the then new and experimental market sold 750,000 pounds of tobacco. The next year, 1899, recorded the remarkable increase of 150 per cent. over that of '98. In 1900 the showing for Smithfield is equalled by only two or three of all the bright markets in Virginia, North or South Carolina. This was the notable "short crop year," and though with very rare exceptions, even the old and firmly established markets showed a decrease of from 25 to 35 per cent., it is worthy of the most prominent mention that Smithfield not only held her own, but actually showed an increase of several hundred thousand pounds. And what is generally conceded to be a very conservative estimate, gives the sales for the season now on an increase over any previous year's record.

But Smithfield deserves success. Her merchants and her warehousemen, her buyers, and in fact her every citizen is thoroughly alive to the interest of those farmers who sell their crops with them, and seem to vie with each other in making the planter feel at home while the guest of the town. A more experienced or capable set of warehousemen cannot be found than those who have the interests of the Smithfield market in charge. They are all men who have been raised in the tobacco business and can show a pile of tobacco to better advantage and with more good results than many men whose conditions and surroundings should give them the advantage. Smithfield is situated in, and is the county seat of Johnston county, and draws the same class of tobacco that has been the making of such markets as Wilson and Rocky Mount. Originally the trade of Smithfield was confined to its own county, but as the market has grown the source of supply has also materially widened, until to-day the largest planters of Wake, Wayne, Wilson, Harnett, Sampson and other adjacent counties are regular sellers on the Smithfield floors. It is by this extension of territory that the growth of a market can be judged, and the circumstances are most flattering for Smithfield. In order to handle the farmers' trade more quickly and satisfactorily, it was at first found necessary to increase the warehouse buildings from one to two, and this year three are in full blast and having large sales. Something concerning these is shown below.

THE FARMERS WAREHOUSE.
Messrs. Boyett Bros., the proprietors of the Farmers Warehouse, are the latest addition to the tobacco interests of the town. These gentlemen have for many years been prominently associated with the mercantile interests of Smithfield and are widely known as proprietors of Boyett Bros.' Grocery and Dry Goods Store. Feeling the need of a third loose leaf warehouse, they have invested large capital in the Farmers Warehouse and have made it one of the most modern and best conducted houses in the State of North Carolina. They have made many friends throughout the neighborhood by their business methods and accommodation to patrons, and their Farmers Warehouse became popular with both planters and buyers from the date of its opening sale. The accommodations at the Farmers are of the best, and the skylights are arranged with a view to throwing at all times a perfectly true light on the tobacco below. The Farmers Warehouse,

under the management of the Messrs. Boyett, is an institution that has come to stay.

THE BANNER WAREHOUSE.
To mention the Banner Warehouse in twenty miles of Smithfield is to mention a place that every farmer in even a greater radius than this knows intimately. From the birth of the market to this, its fourth anniversary, Messrs. H. L. Skinner and T. S. Ragsdale have conducted a warehouse business to the entire satisfaction of their customers. By their integrity and strict attention to business, they have made many friends amongst the planters of this district, and have worked up a business that could only be the result of having kept to the letter all promises made, and of a thorough knowledge of how to run a warehouse. In the early days of the market's history these two gentlemen were proprietors of different establishments and competitors for the farmers' trade, but having concluded that "in union there is strength," they have joined forces, and now form a combination whose popularity it is hard to excel. Their Banner Warehouse, like everything else connected with the Smithfield trade, is thoroughly modern in every respect, and has lighting arrangements of the very best. Special accommodations are prepared for farmers who are their guests for the night.

THE RIVERSIDE WAREHOUSE.
This is one of the first warehouses built in Smithfield and has earned for itself a splendid reputation. Its operators, Messrs. C. B. Paylor and Will H. Lassiter belong to that class of hard and conscientious workers who would bring success to anything, and when it comes to their especial line of warehouse work they are certainly the right people in the right place. Mr. Paylor cries every pile of tobacco personally, and his fine judgment ensures a top notch price for every pound. Mr. Will H. Lassiter visits his many friends in the surrounding counties and keeps his home force busy. A stronger combination of warehousemen cannot be found than that of Paylor and Lassiter. The Riverside Warehouse has kept up with all modern improvements, and the firm and the house are both good examples of the way that the tobacco business is conducted in Smithfield. As the season advances new faces are appearing bringing loads from new sections to reap the benefits from this live and hustling market. Mr. J. P. Wade is the efficient bookkeeper for the Riverside Warehouse and adds many patrons by his congenial manners and great popularity.

STRONG FORCE OF BUYERS.
There is no market, no matter how well situated, or how progressive and pushing its backers may be, that can succeed unless the buying element is a strong one, and one that looks to the interest of its market. But, added to the splendid location and the hard working warehousemen, Smithfield has a corps of buyers which might easily be the making of any market. These men represent the orders of some of the strongest leaf, commission, brokerage and manufacturing houses in the country. They are in Smithfield to buy tobacco, and since their orders range from the commonest scrap to the finest cutters and wrappers, lively competition is witnessed over every pile. This is a most healthy condition for a growing market, as it gives the farmer absolute assurance that his crop will bring the highest possible market price. Under such circumstances there can spring but one result—sure and steady development, and in Smithfield that result is already most apparent. A few words about the Smithfield buyers will be of interest.

THE AMERICAN TOBACCO CO. is well and ably represented by Mr. Oscar Gregory, who is a native of Oxford, N. C., on which market he received his schooling. Mr. Gregory comes from a tobacco family and his thorough experience fully warrants the perfect confidence of his company, which he has faithfully served for three years.

W. A. WILLINGHAM & CO.—This firm is under the personal management of Mr. A. B. Willingham, who also has large establishments in Durham, N. C., and South Boston, Va. Mr. Willingham has a thoroughly modern and up-to-date steam plant, and the firm does one of the largest general leaf businesses in the State. Besides the steam re-ordering plant Mr. Willingham also operates a large stemmy and sees that the price of strips does not suffer on the Smithfield market.

R. H. McGUIRE, known throughout Virginia, North and South Carolina as one of the best judges of the weed on any market. This gentleman has for three successive seasons linked his interests with those of the Smithfield market and is reckoned as one of its strongest factors. Mr. McGuire buys all grades either on order or contract, and has by strict application to business principles gained the entire confidence of his customers.

Mr. T. J. Gentry is another of the strong men of this market. For three years Mr. Gentry has helped upbuild, step by step, the trade at Smithfield. He does a large order and contract business and is prepared to handle with skill and satisfaction the interests of his patrons. Mr. Gentry is a man of long and varied experience in the leaf tobacco business, having previously lived on the Roxboro market.

Skinner & Ragsdale.—This firm is one of the largest order and commission buyers on the market. They have a large and new prizery, and both are men well versed in the mysteries of the leaf buying business. Their situation on the Smithfield market enables them to secure some of the choicest selections of smokers, cutters or high grade leaf and strips in the State, and they are prepared to handle with promptness and skill any orders placed in their hands.

Mr. W. R. Long, the first proprietor of the Riverside Warehouse, is another who closely follows the Smithfield sales. Mr. Long is a practical tobacco man and a fine judge of the weed, and is prepared to handle business either on order or contract.

Stood Death Off.
E. B. Munday, a lawyer of Henrietta, Tex., once fooled a grave-digger. He says: "My brother was very low with malarial fever and jaundice. I persuaded him to try Electric Bitters, and he was soon much better, but continued their use until he was wholly cured. I am sure Electric Bitters saved his life." This remedy expels malaria, kills disease germs and purifies the blood; aids digestion, regulates liver, kidneys and bowels, cures constipation, dyspepsia, nervous diseases, kidney troubles, female complaints; gives perfect health. Only 50c. at Hood Bros. drug store.

Boers Continue Fighting.
London, August 26.—A dispatch from Kitchener, dated from Pretoria to-day, says: "Three officers and sixty-five men who were sent north of Ladybrand (Orange River Colony) on the right of Elliott's column, were surrounded on unfavorable ground and captured by a superior force August 22d. One man was killed and four were wounded. The prisoners were released. Am holding an inquiry."

"Have received a long letter from Steyn, containing an argumentative statement of the Boer case, and saying he will continue to fight; also a short letter from DeWet to the same effect."
"Botha writes, acknowledging the receipt of my proclamation, and protesting against it, and stating that the Boers intend to go on fighting. On the other hand, the surrenders lately have increased considerably."

Working Night and Day.
The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. These pills change weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fag into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25c per box. Sold by Hood Bros.

A farmer living not far from Portland tells a funny request that two women made of him not long ago. He says that they called at his house and asked him to remove his cows from the pasture so that they could pick blackberries.

Henry Braydon, Harris, N. C., says: "I took medicine 20 years for asthma but one bottle of One Minute Cough Cure did me more good than any thing else during that time. Best Cough Cure." Hood Bros., Hare & Son, J. R. Ledbetter.

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Suffer with Indigestion or Dyspepsia
TAKE
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Guarantee
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A Cured Man Says:
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—J. D. Robinson, Danville, Va.
Price 50 Cents.
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.
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Editor Deal on Fashions.
Editor Deal, of the Wilkesboro Chronicle, doesn't like some of the fashionable things he sees, and in his ignorance he thus raves against style:
"The magazine fashion pictures have been for some time so distorted as to hardly resemble humans, and our young folks are trying their very utmost to ape the pictures. There is some sort of double back-action-Grecian bend solar-ecliptic phantasmagoric disarrangement of the perpendicular symmetry about the coupling place of the pedal department with the soul department of the body, that reminds one more of a Kangaroo preparing to jump than a regular old-fashion human being. If Darwin was alive, he would have another proof that we sprung or are about to spring from some sort of an animal. From all these 'Good Lord deliver us, and incline our hearts to keep the old-fashioned common sense law.'"—Ex.

To Cure a Cold, in one Day
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on each box. 25c.

Brought Proceedings to Recover His Ring.
For some time William Jackson, a lineman of the Asheville Electric Company, has been showing attention to a Miss Penland. Jackson gave the young woman a diamond ring, an act which is supposed ordinarily to carry some significance with it, but Miss Penland recently surprised the giver of the ring by marrying a man a few days ago in Marion. Now Jackson has taken out claim and delivery papers for the recovery of the ring, declaring that he only loaned it to the young woman. The case was taken up before a justice of the peace, who decided in favor of the plaintiff. The young woman appealed from this decision, gave bond, and still has the ring in her possession. She contends that Jackson told her to keep the ring, at a time when he thought things were going his way, and that it would all be in the family.—Asheville Correspondence Charlotte Observer.

THE NEW YORK WORLD,
Thrice-a-Week Edition.
Time has demonstrated that the Thrice-a-Week World stands alone in its class. Other papers have imitated its form but not its success. This is because it tells all the news all the time and tells it impartially, whether that news be political or otherwise. It is in fact,
Almost a Daily at the Price of a Weekly
and you cannot afford to be without it. In addition to news, it publishes FIRST CLASS SERIAL STORIES and other features suited to the home and fireside. The Thrice-a-Week World's regular subscription price is \$1 per year and this pays for 156 papers. We offer this unequalled news paper and
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Littleton, N. C.

Two children were playing "hospital ward" and were acting doctor and nurse. "Is the patient very ill?" said the doctor. "She has swallowed a whole bottle of ink," replied the nurse. "What have you done for her?" asked the doctor; and the nurse, with professional satisfaction, answered: "I gave her two pads of blotting paper."—Ex.

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I have for sale a valuable farm of 542 acres three miles southwest of Smithfield. Well timbered with four-horse crop cleared. Suitable to raise cotton, tobacco or any other crops grown in this section of country. Houses and everything in good condition. It is an extra fine place for stock raising. Could be made in three tracts if buyer so desires. Will sell part cash and balance on good time. Call to see me or write to me.
ALEX MUNS,
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