THE BUILDERS OF AN AGRICULTURAL COMMONWEALTH

CLARENCE H. POE, IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC QUARTERLY

The uplift of an agricultural state—what men are doing this inspiring work, and what methods are they using?

One of the men is Mr. Augustus Williams, a Martin county farmer. He gave a big barbecue to his neighbors last fall—had all his friends and kinsfolk and tenants and hired men take a Saturday off and make merry with him. And what was he celebrating? A political victory? No. The discovery of a gold mine on his plantation? No. The consummation of some important financial transaction? Not at all.

Mr. Williams was celebrating the fact that he had succeeded in his effort to get 70 bushels of corn per acre from land that not long ago was only a common pine-log hillside. Yes, 70 bushels per acre, although the State's average yield per acre according to the last census was only a fifth of 70 bushels. Now, however, there are hundreds of farmers who are passing even the 70 bushel per acre mark, and Mr. Williams himself, not content with his last year's record, believes that he can double his yield once again. I hear much from 60, 70 and even 100 bushels per acre when a farmer is as proud now of building up a worn out farm and of doubling his yield of corn or cotton as he used to be of getting a political office; and the best part of the whole story in most cases is not the yield per acre, but the spirit of progress indicated by contrast with the shamefully low yields of former years. There is Mr. J. A. Beal, of Nash county, for example, who made 62 1-2 bushels per acre last year on land that five years ago produced only 7 1-2 bushels. The difference, he says, a difference of 700 per cent in total yield, and the difference between starvation and prosperity in the matter of net results, is due entirely to reading agricultural literature, scientific farming, and this is but one example of the revolution that is going on. The people have decided that all wisdom didn't die with their fathers and that success in farming depends upon other things than planting at the right time of the moon.

DOUBLING CROP YIELDS WITHOUT EXTRA COST

So while Mr. James J. Hill, in his new fall address, declared that the average crop yield per acre in the United states could be doubled without extra cost, there are thousands of farmers in the Carolinas who have determined that their yield shall be not merely doubled, but quadrupled, and thousands of them are succeeding. Down in some sections of Union county, where it was once thought that the land would hardly be worth taxes after the pines were cleared off, Mr. W. J. Brooks harvested 91 bushels of corn per acre last fall. And there is an enthusiasm about the people that is almost religious in its intensity. I feel as if I had just learned how to farm," said one the other day who began to read and catch the spirit of new agriculture a year ago. "Why, I have learned more about farming in these past twelve months than in all my life before. The very earth seems new to me since I learned what science and skill can do to revolutionize my work." Said a Yadkin farmer last winter. "I have been trying to farm for thirty years, but it looks now as if I have not done a thing but to look at not a single unemployed thing on the place except two old roosters. I am going to begin right now to aim at 40 bushels of corn to the acre instead of 10, and to get a Berkshire hog instead of the razorback I have always raised." And it was Hoke D. Miller who told me last spring (As a boy I helped to wear out a Carolina farm. Now I have bought a rundown place and am going to try to live and build up rather than to sell and ruin. I shall carefully consider the soil in this youth.

TWO EARS OF CORN WHICH ONE GROW BEFORE

So this is the age when sports of to-day and of long ago are fused in saying two ears of corn grow where one grew before. This is a good service to mankind than the whole race of politicians put together, when then of the man who makes two blades to the three grows look for one in the stalk where only a straw had grown once. Being in shape, in South Carolina the average corn yield per acre in 1900 was lower even than in North Carolina, although the highest yield ever made in America was made in that State, and one of my own acquaintances there—Mr. W. R. Walker, of Union county—made 100 bushels per acre last year without an ounce of commercial fertilizer. The secret here is that he has cattle and thus keeps up the fertility of the land, besides using a strain of improved seed that he has carefully bred up year after year from his most prolific stalks. Of course, too, he prepares his land well and doesn't let the corn roots at lay idly time. Small wonder that results like these have inspired such enthusiasm that South Carolina [illegible] large ly attended corn [illegible] interest [illegible] the yield of [illegible] newspapers, business men [illegible] catching the inspiration [illegible] erally to the cash prizes offered for larger yields in various counties, while the prize for the highest acre yield in the entire State aggregated $250. The State's indefatigable Commissioner of Agriculture, Mr. E. J. Watson, [illegible] years. The yield per acre in the State has risen from 8 to 10 bushels and the value of the crop has increased to $8,000,000. In North Carolina Dr. Joseph Williams has inaugurated a contest annually in the corn field which the Norfolk & Southern Railway has given for the last spring, and which promises a large increase in corn yields in eastern North Carolina.

NEW IDEAS OF DISTINCTION NEEDED

It is men who are bringing out such results as this whether prominent or not, who are leaders in the uplift of an agricultural State, and we should all of us take off our hats to them. It is time to have done with the old worn-out military and youth ideals of distinction and see what service is worth most to the public in our own time. There are few Congressmen who so much deserve popular applause as the farmer who teaches his neighbors how to double their corn yields. The scientist who makes some notable chemical discovery is not more worthy of honor than the man who breeds an improved type of cotton or corn or tobacco. The man who gets good highways in a community where bad roads once hampered progress should have a statue in marble place as high as that of and a time general. And the and girls founds a good school wise walked the minds of boys would have other- the praise of darkness should have no less than if he had given us some masterpiece of art or literature.

Take, for example, Elder W. A. Simpkins, a Primitive Baptist minister of Wake county, who has labored untiringly for ten years breeding an improved variety of cotton, an earlier and more prolific type, a kind especially useful in sections infested with the boll weevil because it matures too early to give that industrious pest an opportunity to do it much damage. "Money-Maker," "Mortgage-Lifter," "New Bank Account," are names of cotton varieties which other plant breeders have developed and which indicate the new appreciation of what improved seed-breeding signifies. Heretofore, in cotton farming and planting, seed have been more wretchedly selected than in any other crop that men grow—a fearful mixture, shoveled out indiscriminately from the general run of seed at the nearest gin, seed from dwarfed, diseased and degenerate stalks mixed with whatever good seed chanced to get with them. The average yield of seed cotton in the South is only about 570 pounds per acre. In the variety tests, conducted by the State Department of Agriculture, of sections of North Carolina, well bred, carefully selected varieties of cotton have made (with exactly the same fertilization, cultivation and general expense) 900 pounds more seed cotton per acre than a scrub or mongrel variety, such as farmers generally planted in other days. Think of how many thousands of lives have been wasted because of scrub cotton seed, this one handicap meaning the difference between poverty and independence for the farmer."

$3,000,000 MORE FOR NORTH CAROLINA FARMERS

Suppose we increase the yield not by 900 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, but by just 100 pounds, as we should be able to do with well-bred varieties even on average land with average treatment, this would mean an increase of $3,333,000 a year clear profit to the farmers of North Carolina. And this is what is coming about. One breeder of improved seed started last season with 5,000 bushels for sale, and the farmers bought all but 50 bushels for planting purposes.

Our farmers are learning, too, that money can be made growing other crops than cotton or tobacco. A clear profit of $2,500 a year on the farm in the South is as good as a $6,000 salary in New York City, and far more easily made. Not only has the South a monopoly of cotton and of many types of tobacco, but the farmer here can get so much higher prices for all kinds of live stock and dairy products, hay and corn that a Buckeye farmer who recently visited North Carolina (and will probably move here later) spoke of the matter to me with some amazement. The average size of the farms in this State is more than 100 acres but a Catawba county farmer cultivating only 50 acres made $2,400 clear profit last year raising hogs. He had three enclosures of five acres each for soiling crops, one in cow peas, another in corn, and another in wheat and clover, on 35 acres more he grew mature corn for feeding in the ear. The hogs are marketed as soon as they weigh 180 pounds, and, of course, only improved, quick fattening breeds are used. The difference here is illustrated by this experience of Mr. E. G. Palmer's last fall. He put scrub hogs and improved breeds in the same pasture and feed them at the same trough. "The blooded hogs fattened and were sold weeks ago," Mr. Palmer said in January, "but the scrub hogs are not fat yet, and are about the same size as when I bought them."

MONEY IN DAIRYING

Especially in dairying are there splendid opportunities in the South for the man who knows the business and isn't afraid of work. Mr. John Michels, of West Raleigh, showed me the other day the results of the previous month's record with 41 dairy cows—a net profit of $263.78, or at the rate of $3,165.36 a year.

Another man who has made money dairying is Mr. R. L. Shuford, of Newton. He started fourteen years ago with four cows. Now he has 40, and in addition to this 1,000 per cent. increase in his capital stock, he has doubled the value of his land. His secret? Simply intelligence in the management of his cows. The Babcock test is his watch-dog, and if a cow in a year fails to make as much as 400 pounds of butter she is promptly sold for beef or to some less progressive dairyman or farmer. "Last year," says Mr. Shuford, "the record of my best cow was 563 pounds, the poorest (with perhaps an expense of only $10 less) made only 212 pounds. Weeding out such animals steadily, I have brought up my herd now until I can make over 400 pounds of butter a cow."

WHAT A ONE-HORSE FARMER DID

A man who used to be associated with me in newspaper work is now making money raising honey for local market. Mr. H. B. Howard, of Smithfield, 1908, has cleared $50 an acre on sweet potatoes. The growing of this delicious Southern product, the sweet potato, has become quite an industry in some sections and attends has some profits. Mr. Daniel Lane, of Craven county, who has kept an itemized account of expenses for several years, finds that he can raise potatoes for 10 cents a bushel, and has sold in Raleigh last spring for 50 cents a peck. Of course there is loss in getting them through the winter but with a yield of from 100 to 100 bushels per acre, it is easy to see that the net profits are still considerable. I should like also to tell you about a one-horse farmer, Dr. Chamberlain of South Carolina, makes $1,000 clear profit a year growing sweet potatoes, corn and cowpeas, while at the same time increasing his land value each year by 50 per cent of the purchase price. But you can read this story in Farmers Bulletin No. 312 issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. Dr. Ramsey's land was worth only about $15 an acre eight years ago. It now yields $50 a year and has a market value of $100.

The conservation of the Southern farmer, who is taught to swear super-*serious allegiance to cotton* and tobacco, probably keeps him from realizing in other lines of agriculture. Both the poultry and stock departments of my paper are conducted by men who came here from the West. Once the immigrant gets over his homesickness, he surpasses the native in enthusiasm. One of our most prominent State-builders is Mr. A. L. French, who several years ago moved from Ohio, bought a 240-acre farm in Rockingham county for $2,800 and began general grain and stock farming. The result is that he has not only made about $3,000 a year for himself, but all the wide-awake farmers for miles around have introduced profit-making blooded stock into their herds, and a revolution is on in the entire live stock industry of the section. Incidentally Mr. French has taken land so hard and lifeless that not even weeds or "poverty grass" would grow on it and built it up with manure and cowpeas until it now makes an average of 50 bushels of corn per acre.

"GOD ALMIGHTY AND THE COWPEA."

One of the most intelligent and most successful immigrants I know of, is Mr. J. Lewis Lee, who came to Conway, S. C., seven years ago with some other immigrants from the West. The others became discouraged and started back home—and we will let Mr. Lee tell the rest of the story.

"In despair my wife exclaimed, with tears in her eyes, "Whatever shall we do, Lewis? All our friends are leaving us and we shall be left alone down here."

"No," I exclaimed, "we shall not be left alone, we still have two friends who will stay by us."

"Who are they?" she asked dubiously.

"The Almighty God and the cowpea!" I replied, "and as long as they will stand by me I will stand by the South."

"They have stood by me and today I am more satisfied than ever that by proper rotation and management the South must take the lead and become the most important of all sections on this continent."

But perhaps the city reader doesn't know about the great legume and soil-builder whose partnership with the Almighty kept Mr. Lee in the South. Let me refer him then to another State builder, Prof. W. F. Massey, the apostle of the cowpea, whose monument is renewed with each returning season in tens of thousands of acres of this wealth-making crop. Not only does it furnish one of the finest hays in the world (pea hay actually rival cotton as a money crop) but it stores up nitrogen in the soil—nitrogen, that most costly of all fertilizing elements, for which the farmers of this and adjoining States here have spent about $15,000,000 a year. Yet there are 38,000 tons of this element in the air above every acre of ground, scientists tell us. $11,000,000 worth that the farmer owns with his every acre, and the cowpea takes it from the air and stores it in the soil.

MAKING WAY FOR CATTLE RAISING

Another builder of the State is Dr. Tait Butler, who has cleared the way for cattle raising and therefore, as Dr. R. T. Galloway says, for a system of land building, to supersede land-robbing. In a few years time, under Dr. Butler's direction, the cattle tick has been exterminated in nearly one-fourth of the area of the State and this section thereby opened up for the first time in years to unrestricted live stock trade with the rest of the world, the burdensome quarantine regulations which keep tick-infested sections from an equal chance with other sections in the stock raising industry have been at last removed.

Most important of all perhaps in the agricultural uplift is the demonstration work, the most striking educational innovation of this generation and one of such patent merit that the wonder is that Adam himself did not think of it. Dr. Knapp's carefully selected field agents are at work in a considerable number of counties while in others the State Department of Agriculture, through Mr. T. B. Parker, is doing demonstration work with no less success. For a long time the Department of Agriculture sought to reach the farmer through learned bulletins, but this was like reading a Latin mass to unlettered children. Then the introduction of farmers' institutes registered a marked educational advance, but, so long as science merely "preached at" the farmers, thousands still sat in the seats of the scornful. Then came in this State—test farms operated at public expense in different sections, but the obdurate farmer declared that this was not "practical farming." He doubted whether they really paid. Last and best of all has come the demonstration work whereby the leader guides the hand of the everyday farmer while he learns to write the magical letters of science and profit upon his own soil. To the next generation it will be a wonder that we were so slow in learning this simple lesson of how to carry knowledge to the man behind the plow.

"STOP RUNNING YOUR BRAIN WITH ONE HORSE-POWER."

And while much has been said about the improvement in cultural methods, seed selection, etc., taught by these demonstration agents, perhaps even more important is the work they are doing in supplanting the old-time one-horse plows and other farm implements with two, three or four-horse tools. "Stop running your brain with one-horse power" has become a slogan. "We may be as smart as Western farmers, but if they run their brains with two to six-horse power while we run ours with only one-horse power, nothing can keep us from losing out." Dr. Knapp pointed out the weakest place in Southern agriculture when he said:

"Where the South Carolina farmer uses one mule, weighing 800 to 900 pounds, and one man to plow, accomplishing less than an acre per day from 3 to 4 inches deep, the Iowa farmer uses at least three horses, weighing from 1,400 to 1,500 pounds each, and plows four acres per day, 8 to 8 inches deep. He uses five and one-half times the power and accomplishes about eight times the work in a day, if depth of plowing be considered."

A long time we have been trying to teach agricultural science to the old farmer and, as we have seen, we have just learned how, but the farmer boy we are just beginning to teach at all. Agriculture now has a definite place in the school curriculum, and as this is written, Dr. F. L. Stevens, who has done more for agricultural education than anyone else in the State, is conducting a training school for teachers at the A. & M. College for the especial purpose of enabling them better to teach agriculture.

HOW A RURAL HIGH SCHOOL REBUILT A COMMUNITY.

Hand in hand with the agricultural revival (and the surest guarantee of its permanence, in fact,) has gone the educational revival, which for six years past has been directed by one of the most useful public officials in the State, Superintendent J. Y. Joyner. The records show that these five years we have averaged a new school house for every sunset, including Sundays; one new rural school library, too, for every day in these six years; every 72 working hours for six years we have also added a new rural local tax district (though there were neither rural school libraries nor rural local tax districts before 1902;) a school house loan fund of $400,000 has been built up, and—most notable of recent achievements—81 counties these last 12 months have established rural high schools, a thing for which there was no provision before the General Assembly of 1907.

Nor are there anywhere Builders of the State more worthy of honor than some of the heads of these rural high schools. The school at Bunn, Franklin county, established four years ago, the product of local taxation and the consolidation of districts, is a fine illustration of their power to rebuild a community and awaken a dormant people. There is no railroad within ten miles of Bunn, and four years ago it was a typical backwoods neighborhood. The school brought a message of new life, opened a window to the outside world, fired pupil and parent with new ambitions. The old residences have been remodeled and painted. Though the school does not yet give especial attention to agriculture, men around it farm better because of other agricultural influences and new impulses generally that have come into their lives, and lands have doubled in value. There is a change in the very appearance of the people, in the kind of hats the young women wear and in the bearing of the young men. Every child now looks forward to an education as his rightful heritage, and the number of young women going off to college betokens better teachers for the public schools of the county round-about as they return home. The farmers have bought pianos for their homes, more newspapers are read than ever before; the flags of the State and nation floating above the building stand for a new patriotism, and I know nothing indeed which gives stronger ground for such patriotism than the rebuilding of old Bunn neighborhood and its scores of eager-hearted boys and girls singing "America."

HOW TO GET BETTER ROADS.

About the proposal for the reduction of railway freight and passenger rates in the South, much has been said these last twelve months, but there is one form of traffic rate reduction in progress about which little has been written, which yet is a factor of no small importance in the agricultural uplift of which I am writing. To transport a ton one mile by sea costs one-tenth of a cent, by rail, one cent, while to haul a ton a mile over a good road costs seven cents, and over an ordinary country road 25 cents. It is the extortionate freight and passenger rate exacted by the ordinary country road that we are now setting ourselves to reduce; we must bring the ton rate down from 25 cents to seven cents a mile. Hence, another builder of the State I would mention is S. B. Alexander, of Mecklenburg, leader in the movement in which that county built highways which have made it famous. But the agricultural uplift is debtor not only to these expensive methods of road-making but also to that marvelously simple and inexpensive, and no-less marvelously effective, good roads maker, the split log drag. "With a three-horse plow and a drag," Mr. H. H. Williamson, of Rockingham county, tells me, "I have built nearly a mile of road in ten hours which in many respects was superior to roads made with an expensive machine." For another example, take Griffith dirt road out of Monroe, dragged after rains this spring with two pieces of timber lashed together. "It will do your eyes good to see it," as a farmer expressed it. "Road 50 per cent. better at practically no cost; a dirt road as smooth and level as the macadam streets in Monroe."

BUILDERS OF THE STATE.

But the men who have done notable work as State leaders in the agricultural uplift are too numerous to mention in this article, while a separate article might be given to the work of public-spirited women—such as Mrs. F. L. Stevens, Mrs. W. L. Hollowell and others, who are doing in North Carolina the same sort of betterment work that Miss Mary T. Nance, just long out of college herself, is doing with such passionate devotion and enthusiasm for the country school and the country boys and girls of South Carolina. But these other men and women whom I should like to mention as leaders of State-wide prominence are but types of hundreds who have caught this vision of the possibilities of State building and are doing their parts with a fine, high spirit and a keen joy in constructive achievement that is the surest promise of the South's coming leadership. Charles B. Aycock led the fight for a reformed suffrage in the State, Charles D. McIver was a leader in the educational awakening; John H. Small has the vision of a great inland waterway for the development of our commerce, Henry A. Page and John A. Mills have built railroads and thereby rebuilt communities, and D. A. Tompkins and B. Frank Mebane and the Holts and the Dukes have done the same thing with factories; yet they are not more surely servants of the State than the man who teaches us how to redeem famishing farms to life and comeliness, as R. W. Scott, of Alamance has done, or who gets the farmers of a county to save their land by means of a splendid system of terracing, as did the late Priestley Mangum, of Wake Forest. Whether his ambition be to remake the agriculture of his State or only to build a piece of good road in his township, the spirit of the times demands that every man do something in which he may find the joy of working, apart fame, and which may count, whether for much or for little, i nthe rebuilding of our Southland.

TAKEN TO STATE PRISON.

Iredell Sheriff Carries Two Negroes to Raleigh.

Special to The Observer.

Statesville, Feb. 5.—Sheriff J. M. Deaton left yesterday afternoon for Raleigh, having in custody Richard Potts and Sam Carlton, colored, who will serve terms in the State prison for offenses in Iredell. In Superior Court last week Potts submitted to manslaughter—he killed Lon Summers, colored, at Elmwood Christmas Eve—and was sentenced to fifteen years in the State prison; and Sam Carlton was convicted of arson, he having burned Will McLelland's barn, and was sentenced to six years in the State prison. Carlton is a mean, shrewd negro and a "smooth article." Unless the guards keep a strict watch on him it is doubtful if he remains in prison long. Potts is a mean negro when drunk, but ordinarily is quiet enough. The Statesville officers took no risks with him.

Mooresville Mill Man Moves to Texas.

Mooresville Enterprise.

Mr. P. S. Boyd, who for ten years has acceptably filled the position as superintendent of the Mooresville Cotton Mills, has resigned his place and has accepted a similar position with a cotton mill at Fort Worth, Tex., and he will soon leave here with his family for their new home.

Beware of Frequent Colds.

A succession of colds or a protracted cold is almost certain to end in chronic catarrh, from which few persons ever wholly recover. Give every cold the attention it deserves and you may avoid this disagreeable disease. How can you cure a cold? Why not try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy? It is highly recommended. Mrs. M. White, of Butler, Tenn., says: "Several years ago I was bothered with my throat and lungs. Someone told me of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I began using it and it relieved me at once. Now my throat and lungs are sound and well." For sale by W. L. Hand & Co.

MILLS AND MARKETS

HESTER'S COTTON REPORT.

Five Days of February Show an Increase of 63,000 Bales Over the Same Period Last Year—Foreign Exports Show an Increase Over Last Year.

New Orleans, Feb. 5.—Secretary Hester's weekly cotton statement issued today shows for the five days of February an increase over last year of 63,000, and an increase over the same period year before last of 36,000.

For the 158 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is ahead of the same days of last year 7,358,000 and ahead of the same days year before last 320,000.

The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 327,708 bales against 328,670 for the same seven days last year and 348,718 year before last.

The movement since September 1st shows receipts at all United States ports 7,658,731 bales against 6,405,166 last year; overland across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers to Northern mills and Canada 822,581 against 405,061 last year; interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of the commercial year 670,079 against 403,972 last year; Southern mills takings 1,253,000 against 1,227,122 last year.

These make the total movement since September 1st to date 10,399,341 against 8,441,311 last year.

Foreign exports for the week have been 244,148 against 288,546 last year, making the total thus far for the season 5,949,601 against 5,226,178 last year.

The total takings of American mills, North, South and Canada thus far for the season have been 3,041,903 against 2,243,761 last year.

Stocks at the seaboard and the 29 leading Southern interior centres have increased during the week 54,068 bales against a decrease during the corresponding period last season of 76,834.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far from the new crop, the supply to date is 10,680,688 against 8,789,317 for the same period last year.

World's Visible Supply.

New Orleans, Feb. 5.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's visible supply of cotton issued to-day shows the total visible to be 5,639,458 against 5,869,438 last week and 4,690,447 last year. Of this the total of American cotton is 4,[illegible]58 against 4,583,938 last week and 3,763,571 last year, and of all other kinds, including Egypt, Brazil, India, etc., 1,085,000 against 1,086,000 last week and 1,166,876 last year.

Of the world's visible supply of cotton there is now afloat and held in Great Britain and continental Europe 3,325,000 against 2,872,000 last year; in Egypt 208,000 against 222,000 last year; in India 417,000 against 548,000 last year, and in the United States 1,689,000 against 1,388,000 last year.

CHINA BUYERS IN AGAIN.

They Have Found Prices Stronger Than Before Holidays—Inquiries and Some Orders For South American Account—Red Sea and India Also Asking For Prices—Exports For Twelve Months Make Good Showing.

New York Commercial, 3d.

Expectations of a larger business with China on cotton goods are higher than they have been since the year opened. Quite a few inquiries have come through since the holidays in China markets, and additional business is reported as having been put through in a quiet way. Further orders are said to have been placed on sheetings and drills, at prices now quoted in the market. Some buyers claim that they could have put through considerable more in the way of business, had sellers been a little less firm in their price ideas. As it is, they found sellers firmer than they were a week or ten days ago, and apparently not as anxious to do business, except at their own terms. Mail advices from China state that merchants there are very hopeful for the future, and have been placing orders in this market at higher prices than those at which similar goods could have been purchased in their own markets. During the last month of the old year, cotton goods taken for China account in the American markets showed a marked improvement over the last month in 1907. The total shipments for the month of December, 1907, amounted to 1,298,319 square yards valued at $96,945, as against 5,462,472 square yards valued at $293,296 for December, 1908.

Some orders and quite a few inquiries are coming forward from Red Sea ports. The prices which sellers are asking for 3.50 yard sheetings seem to be a little too high for that market, however, and business has been restricted. As a rule sellers are asking 5 5-8 cents for these goods, but buyers are not as yet willing to meet this figure. South American buyers are taking moderate sized lots of colored goods, and have also placed some additional orders for light-weight drills and sheetings. Stocks are reported to be running low, and there are not sufficient goods on order to cover future requirements. India has also been making inquiries as to prices on drills, and further business is looked for from that quarter in the immediate future.

The official figures just to hand for the 12 months ending December, 1908, and comparisons with those for 1907, show quite a respectable increase in favor of 1908. The total shipments for last year amounted to 272,242,179 square yards, valued at $16,904,383, as compared with 216,387,642 square yards valued at $14,900,431 during 1907. The figures in detail by country follows:

Yarn Orders Received.

Orders for yarns as follows have been reported to the office of the Hard Yarn Spinners' Association:

Date.	Description.	Pounds.	Price.
Jan. 27	20-2 skeins	12,000	18½
" 25	20-2 warps	33,600	18½
Feb. 1	20-2 skeins	10,000	18½
Jan. 27	24-2 warps	1,714	19½
" 28	26-2 skeins	10,000	20
" 30	30-1 skeins	10,000	19½
" 30	30-4 skeins	1,000	21

COTTON YARNS ARE LOWER.

Mr. E. B. Dickson, a Well-Known Cotton Yarn Man, Talks of the Markets—Demand Generally Quiet and of the Hand-to-Mouth Character.

Mr. E. B. Dickson, in talking of the cotton yarn market, yesterday, had the following to say:

"Stocks of medium and low numbers are very heavy. The cotton yarn market shows little or no change for the better. Sellers talk of large accumulations here and in other markets, and buyers see no necessity for purchasing ahead in volume when yarns can be had from stock on the more staple numbers so readily.

"Some commission houses and dealers holding stocks have confidence in their value, but they are not prepared to try to stem the effects of an over-production, unless mills are willing to join with them in steadying values.

"The demand for the moment is generally quiet and of a hand-to-mouth character. Buyers appreciate that they can secure numbers under 50s without difficulty, whether weaving or knitting yarns are wanted and until their needs become much more pressing they are not disposed to anticipate in any way. Some spinners are offering yarns at lower figures than dealers care to quote. This policy may become more general as the smaller mills run out of orders. Should it reach the proportions now feared in some quarters there is very little likelihood that yarns will stiffen much before April. The conviction is growing that the demand for yarn will not broaden before the middle of May. The intervening period can be made a very hard one, if mills become pressed and are forced to sell while dealers are carrying stocks.

"Yarns in Great Britain and Manchester are very quiet and stocks are accumulating. There is some desire to consign yarn, as some of the mills feel that they will be able to get higher prices later. However, consignment goods are never very profitable.

"There has been little doing in the export markets recently. Some sales of Canton flannels have been made for China shipment and some standard drills are wanted at a price for India shipment. Red Sea buyers will operate in small lots, whenever the late low figures can be reached on 3.50 to 4 yard goods. The miscellaneous buying is fairly steady and some of the South American countries are coming forward with repeat orders for goods delivered at low figures last year. The West Indian trade holds quiet.

"Quotations given below are as correct as we can give on such an irregular market:

SOUTHERN TWO-PLY SKEINS.

4s to 8s	15c	36s	23c to 24c
10s to 12s	15½c to 16c	40s	24c to 25c
14s	16c	50s	30c to 31c
16s	16c to 16½c	60s	39c to 40c
20s	18c	3-ply 8s, up-	
24s	18½c	holstery	16c
26s	19c	4-ply 38, up-	
30s	20c to 20½c	hostery	16c

SOUTHERN SINGLE SKEINS.

4s to 8s	14½ to 15c	20s	17c to 17½c
10s to 12s	15c to 15½c	23s	18c
14s	15c	26s	18½c to 19c
16s	16½c	30s	20c

SOUTHERN SINGLE CHAIN WARPS.

12s	16c	24s	18½c to 18½c
14s	16c to 16½c	26s	19c
16s	17c	30s	20½c
20s	17½c	40s	25c
22s	18c to 18½c		

SOUTHERN TWO-PLY CHAIN WARPS, ETC.

8s to 10s		2-ply 24s	19c
2-ply 12s	15½c to 16c	2-ply 26s	19½c
2-ply 14s		2-ply 30s	20½c to 21c
2-ply 16s	16½c	2-ply 40s	25c
2-ply 16s	16½c to 17c	2-ply 60s	31c to 32c
2-ply 20s	18c to 18½c		

SOUTHERN FRAME CONES.

10s	15c to 16½c	20s	17½c to 17½c
11s	16c to 16½c	22s	17½c to 18c
12s	16½c to 17c	24s	18½c to 18½c
14s	16½c to 17½c	26s	19c
16s	17c to 17½c	28s	19½c to 20c
18s	17½c to 17½c	30s	20½c to 21c

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW.

New York, Feb. 5.—Though prices have declined during the past week the falling off in values has been comparatively small as far as net changes are concerned. Strong spot interests have been steadily buying. There has been a pressure to buy the actual cotton this season, both because of its cheapness and because of the fact that not for years has the average quality been so high. Meantime the New York stock is steadily decreasing. Tariff agitation is keeping the dry goods trade in check. But in many fabrics fair business is being done and as soon as the tariff question is disposed of, it is expected that business will improve. The present depressive tendencies in the cotton market are reports of dullness and depression here and there in spot cotton at the South, unexpectedly large receipts, and the slowness of trade revival in this country. The dullness of speculation also counts against the market. It is too much an affair of a few large people and some board room traders. Spinners' takings have fallen off and visible supplies have been ginning more rapidly than they were a year ago. Bears think this means that of late the crop has been under estimated and that prices must decline. Bulls maintain that it is only a passing phase that the crop is not over 13,000,000 bales and that every little lack of it will be wanted at higher prices.

Some 4,000 bales of low grades have just been sold from the New York stock for export to Liverpool. McFadden interests are buying steadily. Twenty thousand packages of cotton goods were sold here on Friday for China.

Tough on the 'Gator.

Columbia State.

Between Mr. Taft and Col. Paragrapher Bailey, of Houston, the alligator has a hard time. Mr. Taft eats the saurian's flesh and Colonel Bailey wears his hide as a vest.

Terms.	Deliveries.
5 & 3	Soon.
"	30 to 40 warps weekly; commence March 1st.
"	March.
"	Prompt.
"	Prompt.
"	Prompt.
"	Prompt.

T. W. CREWS, Secretary.

Boy Names Himself.

Hillsboro Observer.

Mr. John T. Sykes, of Bingham township, one of The Observer's best friends, and one of the county's best citizens, was in town Tuesday and called at our office to renew his subscription. Mr. Sykes is the father of several fine sons. He didn't name his youngest son and when the boy was six years old he named himself. Both father and son were such strong admirers of North Carolina's popular Governor, that the father suggested to the boy to name himself Glenn. The boy was so delighted with the name suggested by his father, that now he is named Glenn Sykes.

The Biggest Hog Yet.

Wadesboro Messenger and Intelligencer, 4th.

Papers in all sections of the State have been printing accounts of the killing of hogs weighing 300, 400 and sometimes 500 pounds, but these are not in it with an 18-months-old pig which was butchered at Lilesville Tuesday by Mr. S. E. Hatcher. This pig kicked the beam at 720 pounds, and was the largest hog of its age ever killed in this section.

Malaria Makes Pale Blood.

The Old Standard GROVES' TASTELESS CHILL TONIC drives out malaria and builds up the system. For grown people and children, 50c

DRINK PLENTY OF WATER

ADVICE AND PRESCRIPTION

Tells of Nature's Great Remedy Also How to Make This Splendid Mixture at Home For Kidney and Bladder Trouble and Rheumatism—Shake the Three Ingredients Well in the Bottle.

"The people here do not drink enough water to keep healthy," exclaimed a well-known authority. "The numerous cases of kidney and bladder diseases and rheumatism are mainly due to the fact that the drinking of water, nature's greatest medicine, has been neglected.

Stop loading your system with medicines and cure-alls; but get on the water wagon. If you are really sick, why, of course, take the proper medicines—plain common vegetable treatment, which will not shatter the nerves or ruin the stomach."

To cure rheumatism you must make the kidneys do their work; they are the filters of the blood. They must be made to strain out of the blood the waste matter and acids that cause rheumatism; the urine must be neutralized so it will no longer be a source of irritation to the bladder, and, most of all, you must keep these acids from forming in the stomach. This is the cause of stomach trouble and poor digestion. For these conditions you can do no better than take the following prescription: Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. Mix by shaking well in bottle and take in teaspoonful doses after each meal and at bedtime, but don't forget the water. Drink plenty and often.

This valuable information and simple prescription should be posted up in each household and used at the first sign of an attack of rheumatism, backache or urinary trouble, no matter how slight.

CARTHAGE'S UNIQUE CLAIMS.

Two Advantages That Town Has to Offer Pythian Orphanage.

Special to The Observer.

Carthage, Feb. 5.—The Carthage Lodge, Knights of Pythias, is making a vigorous effort to locate the Pythian orphanage here. Options have been secured on three large farms, and the people are making liberal subscriptions to this fund.

It is argued that Carthage has two advantages over all her competitors. The pine-clad sandhills of Moore county have a national reputation for healthfulness. Typhoid and malarial fevers are unknown. It is claimed, furthermore, that the farm could be made to sustain the orphanage. The Moore county dewberry has given Carthage a unique reputation. It is the unanimous opinion of the dewberry growers that one acre set in dewberries will more than maintain one child in the orphanage; therefore, an acre in dewberries for every child in the orphanage will make the institution self-sustaining. The sandy lands around Carthage produce excellent fruit and vegetables by reason of the high altitude, and that the soil responds rapidly to intelligent cultivation is shown by the Pinehurst farm.

The foods we eat furnish energy for the body just as burning coal makes steam for an engine.

The experiments of Prof. Frankland, Ph. D., of London, show that cod liver oil yields two and one-half times more energy than starches or sweets.

Scott's Emulsion

is pure cod liver oil combined with hypophosphites of lime and soda. It forms fat, gives strength, enriches the blood, invigorates the nerves, and repairs tissues.

Send this advertisement, together with name of paper in which it appears, your address and four cents to cover postage, and we will send you a "Complete Handy Atlas of the World"

SCOTT & BOWNE, 409 Pearl Street, New York

Comfort

SOUTHERN QUEEN GRATES SAVE FUEL.

J. H. WEARN & CO.

Charlotte, N. C.
Write for Mantel Catalogue.

A GOOD RULE TO FOLLOW

In deciding on where to place your order for plumbing and heating work is the reliability of the plumber. You will find us reliable in estimates and in work. Good work always, and prices the lowest at which good work can be done.

HACKNEY BROS. CO.,
'Phone 312. Charlotte, N. C.