

PEANUTS.

Mr. Editor:—What is the average yield of peanuts in good soil? what soil is best suited to this crop? What is its common market value?

[REPLY.]

From fifty to seventy-five bushels per acre is about the range of product on good soil. In the great peanut regions of Virginia and North Carolina, the former is considered a large crop, while in Louisiana and Mississippi we have known one hundred bushels raised to the acre. The best soil is a rich sandy loam that has been pretty well worn, and its fertility kept up by annual manuring. Lime and especially plaster is a good application to this crop, as they tend to prevent "pops." The price ranges from one and a half to two dollars a bushel, two dollars being about an average one year with another. The peanut we consider one of the most profitable crops raised in the South.

THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI FLOOD.

Appalling Statements of the Devastation.

Towns Submerged—Five Millions of Acres Involved—Thousands of People Destitute—Crops Destroyed—Aid for the Sufferers, &c., &c., &c.

It would seem that the full extent of the great flood of the Mississippi river in the Southwest is only beginning to be understood at New Orleans. The details that now come would seem to indicate the almost utter ruin by water nearly of what has been left for ruin by the carpet-bag government in Louisiana.—The cotton and sugar growing districts have suffered immeasurably and in this regard will affect the whole country. Appeals for aid are enforced by facts, in regard to the sufferings of families and their domestic animals, which are resistless, and it is gratifying to note that aid is prompt, and that food and rations and money are beginning to pour in for relief from many quarters. Below we give all the details received by mail, as follows:

EXTENT OF THE DISASTER.

The New Orleans Times says that the extent of the damage by the overflow in Louisiana is only beginning to be understood, and that the flood will involve 5,000,000 acres of land and a population of 178,000. In the cotton regions it is now ascertained that nine of the largest and richest parishes producing cotton have been inundated. The parishes of Carroll, Morehouse, Sicland, Madison, Franklin, Tensas, Caldwell, Concordia and Catahoula are all overflooded, and embrace fully 2,500,000 acres. The amount of cotton land in these parishes in actual cultivation is ascertained to be a quarter of a million acres, besides one hundred thousand acres in corn. These estimates include only large places, leaving out hundreds of small farmers, and all estimates for cattle, hogs and gardens. The population of these nine parishes is 20,394 whites and 54,033 blacks, according to the census of 1870.

THE SUGAR PARISHES.

In the sugar producing parishes ascertained facts discover equal if not a greater amount of ruin and suffering. These parishes are Pointe Coupee, East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, Ascension, Assumption, La Fourche, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Charles, Terre Bonne, and Plaquemine. The overflow in these parishes covers nearly two and a half million acres, tilled and untilled, including the production of thirty thousand hogsheads of sugar, besides a large product of rice and the crops of small farmers, of whom there are many hundreds who have lost their stock and pretty much everything else they possess.

The population of these parishes, according to the census of 1870, was 50,368 whites and 72,241 blacks, making a total of 122,609, from which must be deducted the population of East Baton Rouge, as only a small portion of that parish has suffered from the overflow. That deduction being made, the parishes named contained a population of 103,609. In all the parishes named it is believed that more than 25,000 people are in actual suffering for the necessary supplies of life, and that in less than sixty days the number of those whose circumstances will require alleviation will increase to more than 50,000 persons.

SWEEP OF THE FLOOD.

The immense body of water which comes down the valley of the Mississippi and Ouachita and Black rivers passes across Red river some forty miles from its mouth, and meeting with no obstruction until it meets the levee of Bayou des Glazes it sweeps with irresistible force every feeble barrier occupying a breadth of country from twenty-five to thirty miles wide through the eastern portion of Averteilles and St. Landry parishes and covering all the lands in that region, which includes within its limits the larger portion of the most productive lands in these two parishes. Beginning at Moreamount it washes

around what is called the big bend of the Bayou des Glazes down to Simsport, a distance of more than forty miles by meanders of the bayou, which is thickly settled, thence down the lower lands on the western side of Atchafalaya river, behind the plantations on that river, inundating them from behind. Within the limits of the land thus submerged there are not less than 10,000 souls, including white and black, most of the laboring class, but no doubt some of the proprietors are in a suffering condition on account of the almost total failure of the crops of both corn and cotton, on account of the wet weather last year.

THE OUCHITA VALLEY.

Dispatches from the Ouachita Valley, La., give graphic pictures of the distress. The town of Monroe is on an island two and a half miles long by a half mile wide from which there is no exit, except by boats or swimming. From the crossing of the railroad and Desard street back is one wide sea. All the vacant houses have been taken, and several families are living in the court house. Business is almost completely suspended, but the houses are open. Fully one thousand people have not rations for three days, nor money to buy with. Stock of every description gathered in the town are starving. On Desard Island almost all the plantations are under water. On the river bank from the fences are nearly all washed down and a steamboat could be run down Cotton street.

An eye witness from Camden, Trenton, and Monroe, and the overflowed district of North Louisiana, gives a statement of the numbers needing help as follows:

Lower Black river, 300; Mardier, excluding that part of Concordia parish on Black river, 500; Wilson's, on Black river, 400; Trinity, excluding Tensas bayou, Little river, 1,200; Harrisburg, including Bayou Louis, 1,000; Starb's landing, including Braine landing, 300; Carter's landing, 400; Bunker Hill, between Ouachita and Bayou Boeuf, 1,500; Columbia, including Franklin and Opachita or Boeuf, and between Ouachita and Boeuf river, 2,000; St. Albans, including the bottom on both sides, 1,500; Hopewell and Waco, including the bank swamp up to the Ouachita line, 1,000; Monroe, 1,500; total 11,600.

At the lowest estimate this number may be said to be in actual want, and many have been so for days, as they have now been under water for some two or three weeks. They have lost all their hogs, and nearly all their cattle are lost or starving. It is estimated that fully 27,000 persons are suffering in the district.

RELIEF FOR SUFFERERS.

Large quantities of provisions have been shipped from New Orleans to the sufferers, and the relief committee have got fairly to work, but the demands have increased hourly. Five thousand people of Vanderbilt, Concordia parish, call for food. At Trenton the colored people are in particular distress.

Mayor Wiltz reports \$30,000 in bank to the credit of the relief fund. Dispatches from various points report the following subscriptions on Saturday: Chicago \$3,000, New York liberal contributions, Boston \$10,000. Cincinnati and other cities are organizing for relief.

Swallowing a Fork.

Lucy Hooper, the Paris correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, writes: "A very singular accident which took place the other day is now interesting the medical fraternity of Paris. Mons. L., one of the clerks of the new and huge dry-goods store, Le Printemps, accidentally swallowed a fork, and survived the accident, though how he escaped choking to death is more than I can imagine. He was taken at once to the Hospital de la Pitié, where he is now surrounded by the care and attention of the entire faculty, he being at present one of the most interesting of all possible subjects. Careful soundings have failed to reveal the whereabouts of the unwelcome intruder, but it is supposed to be somewhere in the neighborhood of the liver. A new instrument is in process of construction wherewith an operation is to be attempted, and meanwhile the patient is kept perfectly quiet and on low diet, and is frequently dosed with antidotes against the poisonous principle of the corroding metal. Twenty of the most celebrated Parisian doctors are assisting all this, the poor fellow keeps up spirits, smokes, laughs, talks, and makes innumerable jokes about his singular situation. It is to be hoped that the new instrument and twenty doctors combined will enable him to 'fork over' without losing his life in the process."

Excitement in the English Parliament.

A scene that was worthy of the American Congress occurred Friday in the British House of Commons. Certain members who felt aggrieved by the sudden dissolution of the last Parliament introduced a resolution censuring the Gladstone Administration for its conduct in the matter. The mover of the resolution, Mr. Smollet, made a speech in the best vein of a Texan Congressman. He went so far as to apply the word 'trickster' to Mr. Gladstone. The answer of the ex-Premier was creditable to himself, and saved the reputation of the House. He challenged a repetition of the insulting epithet, and this being refused charged Mr. Smollet with lack of decency and manliness. We are not surprised to read that this incident caused great excitement. Whatever may have been the faults of Mr. Gladstone's Administration, he cannot justly be charged with a breach of faith, nor is

his the type of manhood which deserves to be treated with disrespect even by political opponents. It is hardly necessary to add that the resolution of censure was rejected without a division.

Numerous Investigations.

There is an unusually large number of investigations now in progress before committees of the House of Representatives, the most prominent and important of which are the following: Investigation of the moiety business by Ways and Means; of the bureau of engraving and printing by the Banking and Currency committee; of mail contracts by the Post Office committee; of Indian contracts by the committee on Indian Affairs; of the conduct of certain judges by the Judiciary committee; and of expenditures in the department of justice by the committee on that subject. There is not so great a disposition as heretofore to conduct the investigations in secret. The Post Office committee have indicated a purpose to throw open their doors during the investigation of the mail contracts.

Bishop Cummins.

The Right Rev. G. D. Cummins, Bishop of the "Reformed Episcopal Church," is recovering from his indisposition. He will preside at the General Council which assembles in New York in May. His first visitation will be to the "Reformed Episcopal Church" in Washington, under the care of Rev. Wm. McGuire.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Doors, Sash, Blinds,

Paints, Oils, and Glass.

A LARGE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK. Lowest cash prices. Call and examine.

AT JACOB'S HARDWARE DEPOT.

Builders Hardware.

LOCKS, HINGES, BOLTS, &c., of every description.

THE CELEBRATED SHALERS

SASH, HOLDER AND LOCK.

IT WILL NOT GET OUT OF ORDER OR WEAR out in a lifetime. For sale at

NATH'L JACOB'S

Hardware Depot, No. 9 Market St.

BUGGY HARNESS,

Riding Saddles, &c.,

A complete assortment just opened.

GUNS, PISTOLS,

COOPER'S TOOLS,

Carpenters' Tools,

MACHINIST TOOLS,

Turpentine Tools,

—AT—

N. JACOB'S

Hardware Depot, 9 Market Street.

Wilmington & Weldon Railroad Co.

OFFICE OF GEN'L SUPERINTENDENT, WILMINGTON, N. C., March 28th, 1874.

Notice to Shippers of Early

Vegetables.

ON AND AFTER TO-MORROW, (30th) THE

through Express will run as follows for the accommodation of shippers of Vegetables:

Leave Wilmington daily (Sunday excepted) at 6:30 P. M., arriving in Portsmouth next evening in time to connect with Steamers leaving daily for Baltimore and Philadelphia, and with New York Steamers daily, except Friday.

Shippers will find it to their advantage to forward by this line.

Freight handled carefully.

For rates, &c., apply to

JOHN F. DIVINE, General Freight Agent.

Mar 31-1m

MILLINERY.

WE OFFER OUR LARGE STOCK OF

Spring and Summer Millinery,

Exquisite French Flowers,

VERY CHEAP FOR CASH ONLY.

MRS. E. M. STROCK,

Evans' Block, Princess St.

MAYOR'S OFFICE.

CITY OF WILMINGTON, N. C.,

April 13th, 1874.

PROPOSALS will be received at the Mayor's Office

for the PAYING OFF SIDEWALK on Front street, between Dock and Nun streets, of bricks, known as Eastern Chinkers.

Bonds required for completion of contract.

W. P. CANADAY, Mayor.

DENTISTRY.

46 North Front St., Wilmington, N. C.,

(Over Mrs. Lumsden's Millinery.)

I RESPECTFULLY OFFER MY LONG PROFESSIONAL

experience in the practice of Dentistry to all, and hope to meet my old patrons and friends, at these pleasant hours.

JAS. E. KRA, Dentist.

Wilmington, N. C., April 12th 1874-tf

Mrs. E. R. McGowan,

NORTH SIDE MARKET ST. BETWEEN 2ND

and 3rd, is the only authorized agent in this city for the

STEAM DYEING AND CLEANING WORKS of J. M. Davis & Co.,

they having removed to Fayetteville, where they will do all work

entrusted to them through agent or otherwise at the same price as heretofore.

Orders by express will receive prompt attention. Persons

having work in my hands can call at the above agent if

nov 24-tf

SOLICITOR.—The subscriber, very grateful

for the confidence and support he has received in the office of Solicitor of the District Court from all classes, respectfully announces that (if nominated by the

Republican Convention) he will be a candidate for the same position at the next election, and, in that event, he will thoroughly canvass the entire district, and meet the people personally, no further announcement at the present time is necessary.

EDWARD CANTWELL.

Bacon, Pork, Flour.

75 Boxes Smoked Sides and Shoulders,

80 Boxes B S Sides and Shoulders,

80 Bbls Flour,

800 Bbls Flour.

For sale by REICHTER & CALDERBROG,

27, 28 and 29 North Water St.

MISCELLANEOUS.

INITIAL PAPER.

THE FOLLOWING PAPER PUT UP IN BOXES

of green satin finished paper, handomely illustrated on top and sides, stamped with any desired initial, will be sent to any address, postage paid, on receipt of the price.

Connecticut Valley Initial.

Each box contains one quire of extra super white octavo, and two packs of white envelopes, stamped with rustic initial letters. Price 25 cents.

Brightwood Rose Tint Initial.

Each box contains one quire of rose tint octavo, and two packs of tinted envelopes, stamped with rustic initial letters. Price 25 cents.

Court Initial.

Each box contains one quire of long-fold papers, (something entirely new), assorted tints, and two packs of white envelopes, stamped with initial letter. Price 50 cents.

Any of the above paper sent, postage paid, to any address upon receipt of the price, by

J. T. BILLYSON,

Bookbinder and Stationer,

112 Main St., Richmond Va.

Prospectus for 1874.

SEVENTH YEAR

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An illustrated monthly journal, universally admitted to be the handsomest periodical in the world.

A representative and champion

of Artistic and Literary Taste.

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THE ALDINE, WILL BE SENT WITH ALL THE

regularly, and the temporary or timely

illustrations characteristic of ordinary periodicals. It is

an elegant miscellany of pure, light and graceful literature, and the most artistic and refined of its kind.

Although each succeeding number affords a fresh pleasure to

readers, the interest in the work does not diminish, but

increases. It is the most appreciated article in the

literary world, and its circulation is steadily increasing.

It is a unique and original publication, and one of a

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