

SHEEP IN THE UNITED STATES

When the Dingley tariff was framed it put wool on the protected list, and its advocates contended that this would revive the wool-growing industry, which they said had been almost destroyed by the Wilson tariff, which put wool on the free list.

We were also assured that the protection given by the Dingley bill would increase our flocks and cover our farms and pastures with sheep, but the fact is there are not so many sheep in the country now as there were when the Wilson free wool tariff was in operation.

Table with columns for States and Territories, 1901, and 1893. Lists sheep counts for various states like Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, etc.

This is followed by a statement showing the distribution of flocks by sections. We quote again from the Commercial Bulletin:

Using the figures of the April flock alone the Association groups together twenty-one Northern States where sheep are a farm and a product.

It groups the following as Southern States: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee.

These are significant figures and facts, effectually disposing of theories, contentions, predictions and assertions. The first table shows that there were in this country on the first of April this year, over six and a half millions fewer sheep than there were on the first of January, 1893.

As might naturally be expected the average price of sheep is higher now than formerly, having advanced from an average of about \$2 a head for about twenty years, to \$3.93. But this increase is not in consequence of the tariff, or the increased value of wool, or the larger demand for wool.

es, raise sheep for the butcher, and consequently breed the sheep that is best suited for that purpose—large framed sheep.

When the wool protectionists were clamoring for protection that meant prohibition of foreign wools, the advocates of free wool contended that even admitting that such protection might benefit some wool growers who had fine flocks and produced heavy fleeces of fine wool, it would not benefit the average sheep raiser, and therefore as an aid to wool growing in the larger sense it would be a failure, and that instead of being a benefit it would be an injury to the farmer who did not make wool growing a feature of his farming.

Glance over the subdivision of States, as published above from the report of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, and see if it does not support this condition. With all the protection given by the Dingley tariff there are some six and a half million fewer sheep in this country than there were eight years ago, and nearly three-fourths of the total number in the country are in the States and Territories where land is comparatively cheap and pasturage abundant and cheap.

While the comparatively few men who have large herds of fine wool sheep, who raise them not only for wool, but to sell for stock sheep, may have been benefited by the protective tariff, the farmers who give no special attention to sheep raising have benefited nothing by it, and the people of the country at large have paid millions of dollars more than they should have paid for woollen goods in consequence of the duties on wool and woollen goods.

COTTON AND TOBACCO.

As tobacco culture is increasing in the eastern section of this State, in many instances taking the place of cotton, while sometimes cotton again takes the place of tobacco when the tobacco grower's expectations were not realized, the following, which we clip from the Charleston News and Courier, will be interesting:

The average yield of cotton per acre in the United States, as shown by the crops of the last ten years, is 200 pounds. The highest estimate of the average for 1901 is 190 pounds.

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SPRITS TURPENTINE.

Lumberton Robesonian: Mrs. W. W. Bowland, nee Miss Lula Rankin, died at her home near Rowland Sunday night.

—Charlotte Observer: Mr. W. D. Coyle, of Charlotte, received a telegram Monday night, announcing the death of his son, William Henry Harrison Coyle, at his home near Wilkesboro Monday afternoon.

—Raleigh News and Observer: John Brady, the negro who shot and killed E. A. Smith, of Elton, was arrested at Charlotte Sunday. The shooting, which occurred in a drunken brawl at the home of Deek Whitsell, about three miles from Elton, resulted in the death of Smith, who, at the time was endeavoring to quiet the mob.

—Kinston Free Press: Our community was surprised and shocked Monday morning to learn that a young woman about 25 years of age Miss Minnie Evans, housekeeper for the family of May Geo. B. Webb, committed suicide by taking a homicidal dose of morphine.

—Alamance Gleaner: Graham is forging ahead. Another cotton mill—Voorhes Manufacturing Co.—has been organized and incorporated under the laws of North Carolina.

—The man who had the highest thermometer last summer now has the lowest one, and he is again looked upon with awe and suspicion.—Baltimore American.

—Head of Foreign Missionary Bureau—Where would you prefer to locate as a missionary?—Young Missionary—Well, if possible, where the natives are vegetarians.—Brooklyn Eagle.

—Crawford—While your wife is away in the country, why do you always send her such small sums at a time?—Crabshaw—If I didn't she might get into some home unexpectedly.—Tit-Bits.

—Mrs. Rangle—'I've advertised for a servant for a whole week with no result.'—Mrs. Curno—'Well, I advertised for a good-looking lady-bird, and she came to select on the first day.'—Tit-Bits.

STRAWBERRIES OF WORTH.

Varieties Tested and Found Valuable at the Michigan Station. The Michigan station has devoted much attention to the testing of strawberries, new and old, through a number of seasons.

—Sample in plant and fruit compares well with any other variety. Morgan, Ponderosa, Ridgeway and Ruby have also been quite satisfactory.

—The new sorts that fruited in 1900 H. and Echo, Emma, Gemma, Gladstone, Stuffer, Johnson Early and Woolf are most promising.

—Particularizing in regard to some of the varieties, the station says: Greenville—Plants grow in vigor of growth and productiveness. Berries of large size, but of sufficient firmness. In other points is very good.

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GREENVILLE GARDEN.

Haveiland, Warfield, Clyde, Bubach and Brandwine can be relied upon to give good crops under fairly favorable conditions, although the best results were secured with the last three varieties except in rich, moist soils.

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REPROSECT.

It is an evil day for the wife and mother when she sees her own face in the mirror, and asks the question, "Does it pay? Does it pay to sacrifice health and happiness to be wedded?"

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COMMERCIAL.

WILMINGTON MARKET. (Quoted officially at the closing of the Produce Exchange.)

STAR OFFICE, December 31. SPIRITS TURPENTINE—Nothing doing.

ROBIN—Market steady at \$1.00 per barrel for strained and \$1.05 per barrel for good strained.

CRUDE TURPENTINE—Market steady at \$1.10 per barrel for hard, \$2.00 for dip, and \$1.00 for virgin.

Receipts—299 bales; same day last year, 2,859.

Market firm at quotations of 7 1/2c per pound for middling.

PRODUCE MARKET.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Wheat—Spot dull; No. 2 red 95c; No. 2 hard 94c; No. 2 white 97c; No. 2 yellow 96c.

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Advertisement for Dr. J. C. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, describing its benefits for various ailments.

Advertisement for Castoria, a laxative medicine, with a testimonial from a woman.

Advertisement for Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, highlighting its effectiveness for coughs and colds.

Advertisement for N. F. Parker's furniture, listing various items and prices.