

SUGGESTIVE FIGURES.

It has been asserted by some that the negro race in this country is dying out, dying out like the Indian, but not so fast, while others contend that the negroes are not dying out but are increasing in number. The former probably judge from the mortality reports as compared with the white race and take it for granted that such disproportionate mortality means eventual extinction, forgetting to make allowance for the excess of births over deaths. Relatively speaking, however, with reference to the nominal strength of each race the black race is dying out and slowly but surely becoming less of a factor in our national life and problems. This is unquestionably shown by the comparative mortality reports of all cities where they form a considerable part of the population, cities in the North and in the South, but the following is from another source which is not confined to the cities or to section altogether and is interesting because it cannot be suspected of being influenced by race bias nor famed to support a theory. The figures in both cases are the results of careful records, careful in the former as a business matter and in the latter as the record of a public institution of high standing. We clip from the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mr. Frederick L. Hoffman, statistician for one of the large life insurance companies, contributes to the New York Medical Examiner an article which strikingly compares the rates of mortality among the whites and blacks of this country. For instance, he compares the table of the mortality of the two races:

Table with columns: Age, White, Colored, per 1,000. Rows: 0-4, 5-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65 and over.

Thus for every hundred deaths of whites four years old and under there are 37 deaths of negroes; and so on, ranging at different ages from 260 to 136. The fact that the relative rate of mortality is greater against the young negroes does not argue well for the improvement and survival of the race. The mortality records of the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore between 1893 and 1903 furnish data for this tabulation:

Table with columns: Male Patients, Female Patients, Area, White, Colored, White, Colored. Rows: 0-4, 5-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, All ages.

These records show this percentage of death from special diseases: White, Colored, White, Colored. Consumption, 19.3, 44.5, 31.4, 41.6. Pneumonia, .30, 7.2, 3.0, 24.3. Typhoid, .65, 10.7, 6.5, 11.3. These figures are suggestive of several things and are worthy of the thoughtful study of rattle-brain negro leaders who advise aggressiveness by their race and encourage the belief that they will some day become numerically a dominating force in some sections of this country. They entirely overlook the widening margin in relative strength in favor of the white race. While this is going on they also forget that by migration and distribution of the negroes this margin is made still wider, and wider still by the influx of white settlers from other sections to add to the natural increase of population, an inflow which will steadily grow larger. As a result of this negro migration and white immigration the negro is becoming less and less of a factor, while in one State at least, Louisiana, it has reversed the positions. Ten years ago the negroes outnumbered the whites in that State many thousands, now the whites outnumber the negroes many thousands. This process will continue not only in Louisiana but in all the Southern States. And in this is one of the solutions of the race problem, not a rapid one, maybe, but still more rapid than some may think.

But, why, it might be asked, this disproportion in the mortality of the races? Are the causes to be found in the races themselves, or in the conditions? Unquestionably in the latter, for naturally the negro is not a feeble or decadent race. Under favoring conditions it is a strong and prolific race. The population of Africa shows that and even the increase of the blacks to-day in some sections where they have to contend against much more than they did before the white race became dominant shows it. The history of the race in this country under slavery also shows it. That was one of the reasons which led up to the dispute about the extension of slavery into the territories, and the repeal of the Kansas-Nebraska act, which intensified the agitation which culminated in a fearful clash of arms and the abolition of slavery, with its train of consequences, one of which is shown in the mortality figures quoted above. Had the negro population of the slave States not increased as it had there would have been no need of more territory for the surplus, and there would therefore have been no incentive to restrict agitation.

tality is not in the race but in the conditions, how are the conditions to be improved? The most of these deaths are from preventable causes, causes which could be prevented by the negroes themselves if they had more self control, showed more judgment in the selection of their habitations and in their modes of living. Densely crowded in cities, generally in the least inviting and most unhealthful section, they invite disease, and a large mortality is the resultant. This is shown by the death records of every large city where the negroes are numerous. Therefore they should avoid the towns and cling to the rural regions, where they have healthful occupations, pure air, wholesome food, more room, more comfortable habitations, and fewer temptations to or opportunities for dissipation which brings on disease and hastens death.

To impress the negro with this it is necessary to give him some enlightenment and encourage him to do some thinking for himself. Indirectly if not directly this will be one of the results of the franchise laws in those Southern States which require an educational qualification for the voter—the ability to read and write, the foundation of all education, with which the negro who wills it may become a self educator, and a thinker for himself. And yet there are professed friends of the negro race, who say they desire its welfare and progress, who object to this, the shortest road to both, as an oppression and outrage, when it is really a blessing and a Godsend in disguise.

PROSPECTING FOR OIL.

The belief is entertained by a good many people that petroleum can be found in this State. We have read of companies having been organized to bore for it; one at Asheville to bore somewhere in that vicinity, another to bore in the vicinity of Newbern and another to make tests in the coal field section between the Cape Fear and Greensboro. There are others who firmly believe that it can be found in Richmond county. Geographically this is distributing it pretty generally all over the State.

Among the firm believers that it can be found in paying quantities in Chatham county is Mr. Wm. H. Oliver, of Newbern, who some time ago wrote an article for the Fayetteville Observer calling attention to the fact that he had during the war seen oil found there, and supplements that with a letter which the Observer publishes as follows: "New Bern, N. C., Dec. 2, 1903. "Fayetteville Observer:— "Sometime past I wrote an article which was published by you in regard to oil in Chatham county. I then stated that during the war while living at Graham, we burned in ordinary lamps oil which was brought from Chatham county. Here is no question about oil being there, and I hope the parties who are now prospecting for it, will find it. "WILLIAM H. OLIVER."

To which the Observer adds the following: "Several Fayetteville people, scientifically inclined, have long ascertained that there was oil in this neighborhood, but could not raise the capital to test their views. Now foreign experts have come into the field and we may look for some developments." Of course the cost of boring depends upon the character of the earth formation where the boring is done. If there be not much hard rock to penetrate it can be done for a dollar a foot—less than two dollars. The impression is that for a fair test it would be necessary to bore 1,800 or 2,000 feet to strike the oil-carrying sand strata, but this wouldn't be much of an undertaking for men with some capital to spare. It is certainly worth the trial, for if successful it would mean a good deal for the men who undertake it, and for the State.

As far back as 1866 experts from the Pennsylvania oil regions expressed the opinion that oil would be struck near the Dan river, and a company was organized in Greensboro which began boring in the forks of the Dan and Mayo rivers, not far from Madison. But unfortunately they soon struck a strata of rock which was too hard for the drills of those days, their money gave out and the company went to pieces. Had the conditions been different the test might have been made then.

We are among those who believe that oil will be found in this State, somewhere between the Cape Fear and the Blue Ridge. A Gypsy cure for rheumatism is to carry a chunk of sulphur in your pocket. The size of the chunk or which pocket is not stated, but we suppose a piece something less than a flour barrel in size would answer and to make sure carry a chunk in every pocket you have. In this way if you have more pockets than rheumatism you may get rid of it.

You Know What You Are Taking When you take Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic, because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle, showing that it is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure, no pay. Price, 50c.

DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY FOR PALE PEOPLE, BLOOD, LIVER, LUNGS.

A STRENGTHENER. Vinol Promptly Overcomes Weakness.

DEBILITY OFTEN PRECEDES COMPLETE COLLAPSE. We Want Every One to Know How to Get Strong.

OUR VINOL IS A STRENGTH CREATOR.

The saddest sight on earth is a broken-down man or woman. We see such people every day right here in our own city. It is pitiful to see a man that should be in his prime dragging himself through life dejected, discouraged and broken down, due to some premature weakness. It does not make any difference whether this weakness is the result of dissipation, indiscreet living or disease; it can be overcome.

We have known of many very serious cases of debility quickly overcome by Vinol. Vinol is a scientific re-builder and strength creator. It contains the active curative principles of Cod-Liver Oil in a highly concentrated form. The benefit that can be derived from the use of these principles is so well known that there is no need for us to enter into that subject.

Because Vinol is delicious, and because it does contain these much-sought-after medicinal properties we endorse it, and we unhesitatingly proclaim that it is better than any preparation of cod-liver oil or tonic re-builder we have ever had in our store.

ROBT. R. BELLAMY.

THOMAS B. REED. The death of Thomas B. Reed, removes from the stage a man who for some years was the most conspicuous figure in his party, more admired and more denounced than any other man who in recent years has figured as a partisan leader, but with all a man of genial ways that made him friends even among those who denounced him as a partisan.

—The line of battle between the "Lily Whites" and the old line Republicans in North Carolina are drawn around Samuel Vick, the negro postmaster of Wilson. This contest may settle the "Lily White" business one way or the other for the entire South.—Richmond Leader, Dem.

—The latest "endless chain" scheme caught up with by the Postoffice detectives was run by an old Frenchman in an inmate of the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor in New York. All he asked was that the good people who received those letters send him some cancelled stamps. They were to be utilized to help some poor boy along with a necessary surgical operation. When the officers got track of the old fellow and came up with him they found him operating on a tub full of stamps which were going through a chemical bath, which subtracted the cancel marks and left the stamp as good as new, save the absence of mucilage which he applied, and then sold the stamps. There were about 50,000 in the tub and a lot more waiting their turn for the bath. The old fellow was doing a paying business, but we expect the postoffice people made a mistake in saying anything about this for it is giving the cue to other thrifty, enterprising chaps.

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A sign of approaching revolt and serious trouble in your system is nervousness, sleeplessness or stomach upsets. Electric Bitters will quickly dismember the troublesome causes. It forces the bowels, stimulates the Liver and clarifies the blood. Run down systems benefit particularly, and all the usual attending aches and pains under its searching and thorough effect. Electric Bitters is only 50 cents, and that is returned if it don't give perfect satisfaction. Guaranteed by R. B. BELLAMY, druggist.

ALL WHO USE ATOMIZERS in treating nasal catarrh will get the best result from Ely's Liquid Cream Balm. Ely's Inhalant spraying tube, 75c. Sold by druggists or mailed by Ely Bros., 56 Warren St., N. Y. New Orleans, Sept. 1, 1900. Messrs. ELY BROS.:—I sold two bottles of your Liquid Cream Balm to a customer, Wm. Lamberton, 1418 Delachaise St., New Orleans; he has used the two bottles, giving him wonderful and most satisfactory results. I G. W. McBurn, Pharmacist.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Ayer.

SPIRITS TURPENTINE.

—Wilkesboro Chronicle: Mr. James Penell has donated this office a curiosity in the corn line. It is a solid block of corn, the size of a car in the middle and there are ten ears clustered around it. — Mr. O. F. Cooper of lumberman, brought in some extra fine walnut logs last week from about Kingsport. One of them required a team of six to pull it. It was an extra large one—the largest ever brought here.

Salisbury Sun: James G. Hawkins, so badly wanted by the authorities of Rowan and Guilford counties, was captured Thursday in Ashland, Kentucky, where he was working in a laundry. The sheriff at Ashland received one of Sheriff Julian's descriptions of Hawkins and a reward for his capture. He was working in a laundry in a laundry and went here to that effect yesterday evening. He was notified to hold him and Sheriff Julian left this morning for Ashland, with a view to bring Hawkins back.

—Weldon News: Mr. Henry L. Grant, while hunting Wednesday of last week shot and killed a wild cat on the Gee plantation, about four miles from town. Kingsport. The cat was about 200 lbs. and says he knows that four of the shots took effect. The cat was wild and ferocious and his eyes were like two balls of fire. It was three or four days before he was shot and he was whipped three dogs after it had been wounded. This is the second wild cat that has been killed in that vicinity. A few years ago a very large one was caught, in a steel trap, near Pender Chronicle: While it had been reported that ripe strawberries were in the fields in various parts of the county, and a few quarts had been shipped from the county in November, it remained for Mr. J. J. Jorda of White township, to ship the first quart of the second crop, from the county. Mr. Jorda brought the crate of berries to Burgaw on Monday afternoon and shipped them to Kingsport.

—Fayetteville News and Observer: Bruce Davis, colored, in a field of forty-five acres in Morehead township, five miles from Greensboro, has greatly exceeded a rich field he made of copper and gold bearing ore on his property recently. The ore is found within a foot of the surface, but has dug buckets full of rich copper ore, and at another point, after a blast of flint and slate rock four feet deep, he struck a vein of gold-bearing ore. A large sprinkling of gold specks in it. Whether Davis has struck it rich or not, enough is known to state that parties who ought to know something about the matter, have taken an interest in the property and have offered Davis to take an option of \$2,500 on the property, and he, under advice, has refused it. It is interesting in all these finds that from time immemorial the Indians had the name of possessing such wealth, for generations have dug all about this farm in a vain search for what must have been known by the Indians. The gold-bearing ore is found down through the ages of civilization. Bruce says when he got the farm it was plums full of holes, some of them having dead oaks growing in them, and only got the few inches of soil after reading that the Indians were sent out from Greensboro two weeks ago, and he struck oil or gold or copper the very second day he went prospecting.

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CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Ayer.

"FORCE" makes willing workers. Sweet, crisp flakes of wheat and malt. Like a Giant Refreshed. "I had been suffering from dyspepsia, indigestion, and nervousness, but after eating a few boxes of Force, I feel like a giant refreshed." FITZGERALD.

COMMERCIAL. WILMINGTON MARKET. (Quoted officially at the closing by the Chamber of Commerce.) STAFF OFFICE, December 8. SPIRITS TURPENTINE—Market steady at 50c per gallon. ROSIN—Market firm at \$1.30 per barrel for strained and \$1.35 per barrel for good strained. TURPENTINE—Market firm at \$1.50 per barrel of 280 pounds. CRUDE TURPENTINE—Market firm at \$1.75 per barrel for hard, \$3.00 for dip.

PRODUCE MARKETS. By Telegram to the Morning Star. NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Flour was dull but firmly held with wheat. Wheat—Spot firm; No. 2 80 1/2c. Options closed firm at 81 1/2c net advanced 1/2c. Corn—Spot firm; No. 2 64c. Options closed firm at 64 1/2c net advanced 1/2c. Cotton—Spot firm; No. 1 13 1/2c. Options closed firm at 13 1/2c net advanced 1/2c. Sugar—Spot firm; No. 11 1/2c. Options closed firm at 11 1/2c net advanced 1/2c.

MARINE. ARRIVED. Stmr A P Hurt, Robeson, Fayetteville, James Madden. Steamer Highlander, Bradshaw, Fayetteville, T D Love. British steamship Rosewood, 1,103 tons, McGregor, Pomaron, Heide & Co. Schr Eva A Dacenhower, 217 tons, Johnson, New York, George Harris, Son & Co.

MARINE DIRECTORY. List of Vessels in the Port of Wilmington, N. C., December 9. STEAMSHIPS. Rosewood, (Br) 1,103 tons, McGregor, Heide & Co. Europa, (N) 652 tons, Olsen, Alexander Sprunt & Son. Riverton, (Br) 2,286 tons, Williams, Alexander Sprunt & Son. Lillie, (Br) 311 tons, Davis, George Hart & Co. Harbar, (Br) 2,149 tons, Bowling, Alexander Sprunt & Son. Hermiston, (Br) 2,839 tons, Bain, Alexander Sprunt & Son.

FINANCIAL MARKETS. By Telegram to the Morning Star. NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Money on call was firm but closed easier at 6 1/2 per cent, closing off-red at 6 per cent. Time deposits, 100 days 6 per cent; 90 days 6 per cent, six months, 6 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 6 per cent. Sterling exchange was firm, with actual business in bank bills at 457 1/2 for demand and 483 1/2 for sixty days. The posted rates were 484 1/2 and 488. Commercial bills 482 1/2 @ 483 1/2. Bar silver 47 1/2. Mexican dollars 87. Government bonds—U. S. State bonds steady. U. S. 4 1/2s, registered, 107 1/2; U. S. 4 1/2s, new registered, 108 1/2; U. S. 4 1/2s, coupon, 107 1/2; U. S. 4 1/2s, old, registered, 108 1/2; U. S. 4 1/2s, old, coupon, 108 1/2; U. S. 4 1/2s, old, coupon, 108 1/2; U. S. 4 1/2s, old, coupon, 108 1/2.

NAVAL STORES MARKETS. By Telegram to the Morning Star. NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Rosin steady. Spirit turpentine quiet. CHARLESTON, Dec. 8.—Spirits turpentine and rosin unchanged. SAVANNAH, Dec. 8.—Spirits turpentine quiet firm at 50c. Spirits turpentine quoted firm at 50c. Rosin firm; receipts 3,567 barrels; sales 1,324 barrels; exports 1,320 barrels. Quoted: A, B, C, D, \$1.40, \$1.45, \$1.50, \$1.55, \$1.60, \$1.65, \$1.70, \$1.75, \$1.80, \$1.85, \$1.90, \$1.95, \$2.00, \$2.05, \$2.10, \$2.15, \$2.20, \$2.25, \$2.30, \$2.35, \$2.40, \$2.45, \$2.50, \$2.55, \$2.60, \$2.65, \$2.70, \$2.75, \$2.80, \$2.85, \$2.90, \$2.95, \$3.00, \$3.05, \$3.10, \$3.15, \$3.20, \$3.25, \$3.30, \$3.35, \$3.40, \$3.45, \$3.50, \$3.55, \$3.60, \$3.65, \$3.70, \$3.75, \$3.80, \$3.85, \$3.90, \$3.95, \$4.00, \$4.05, \$4.10, \$4.15, \$4.20, \$4.25, \$4.30, \$4.35, \$4.40, \$4.45, \$4.50, \$4.55, \$4.60, \$4.65, \$4.70, \$4.75, \$4.80, \$4.85, \$4.90, \$4.95, \$5.00, \$5.05, \$5.10, \$5.15, \$5.20, \$5.25, \$5.30, \$5.35, \$5.40, \$5.45, \$5.50, \$5.55, \$5.60, \$5.65, \$5.70, \$5.75, \$5.80, \$5.85, \$5.90, \$5.95, \$6.00, \$6.05, \$6.10, \$6.15, \$6.20, \$6.25, \$6.30, \$6.35, \$6.40, \$6.45, \$6.50, \$6.55, \$6.60, \$6.65, \$6.70, \$6.75, \$6.80, \$6.85, \$6.90, \$6.95, \$7.00, \$7.05, \$7.10, \$7.15, \$7.20, \$7.25, \$7.30, \$7.35, \$7.40, \$7.45, 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\$24.40, \$24.45, \$24.50, \$24.55, \$24.60, \$24.65, \$24.70, \$24.75, \$24.80, \$24.85, \$24.90, \$24.95, \$25.00, \$25.05, \$25.10, \$25.15, \$25.20, \$25.25, \$25.30, \$25.35, \$25.40, \$25.45, \$25.50, \$25.55, \$25.60, \$25.65, \$25.70, \$25.75, \$25.80, \$25.85, \$25.90, \$25.95, \$26.00, \$26.05, \$26.10, \$26.15, \$26.20, \$26.25, \$26.30, \$26.35, \$26.40, \$26.45, \$26.50, \$26.55, \$26.60, \$26.65, \$26.70, \$26.75, \$26.80, \$26.85, \$26.90, \$26.95, \$27.00, \$27.05, \$27.10, \$27.15, \$27.20, \$27.25, \$27.30, \$27.35, \$27.40, \$27.45, \$27.50, \$27.55, \$27.60, \$27.65, \$27.70, \$27.75, \$27.80, \$27.85, \$27.90, \$27.95, \$28.00, \$28.05, \$28.10, \$28.15, \$28.20, \$28.25, \$28.30, \$28.35, \$28.40, \$28.45, \$28.50, \$28.55, \$28.60, \$28.65, \$28.70, \$28.75, \$28.80, \$28.85, \$28.90, \$28.95, \$29.00, \$29.05, \$29.10, \$29.15, \$29.20, \$29.25, \$29.30, \$29.35, \$29.40, \$29.45, \$29.50, \$29.55, \$29.60, \$29.65, \$29.70, \$29.75, \$29.80, \$29.85, \$29.90, \$29.95, \$30.00, \$30.05, \$30.10, \$30.15, \$30.20, \$30.25, \$30.30, \$30.35, \$30.40, \$30.45, \$30.50, \$30.55, \$30.60, \$30.65, \$30.70, \$30.75, \$30.80, \$30.85, \$30.90, \$30.95, \$31.00, \$31.05, \$31.10, \$31.15, \$31.20, \$31.25, \$31.30, \$31.35, \$31.40, \$31.45, \$31.50, \$31.55, \$31.60, \$31.65, \$31.70, \$31.75, \$31.80, \$31.85, \$31.90, \$31.95, \$32.00, \$32.05, \$32.10, \$32.15, \$32.20, \$32.25, \$32.30, \$32.35, \$32.40, \$32.45, \$32.50, \$32.55, \$32.60, \$32.65, \$32.70, \$32.75, \$32.80, \$32.85, \$32.90, \$32.95, \$33.00, \$33.05, \$33.10, \$33.15, \$33.20, \$33.25, \$33.30, \$33.35, \$33.40, \$33.45, \$33.50, \$33.55, \$33.60, \$33.65, \$33.70, \$33.75, \$33.80, \$33.85, \$33.90, \$33.95, \$34.00, \$34.05, \$34.10, \$34.15, \$34.20, \$34.25, \$34.30, \$34.35, \$34.40, \$34.45, \$34.50, \$34.55, \$34.60, \$34.65, \$34.70, \$34.75, \$34.80, \$34.85, \$34.90, \$34.95, \$35.00, \$35.05, \$35.10, \$35.15, \$35.20, \$35.25, \$35.30, \$35.35, \$35.40, \$35.45, \$35.50, \$35.55, \$35.60, \$35.65, \$35.70, \$35.75, \$35.80, \$35.85, \$35.90, \$35.95, \$36.00, \$36.05, \$36.10, \$36.15, \$36.20, \$36.25, \$36.