

INTERESTING EXPERIMENTS.

Experiments have been made in South Carolina in growing sea island cotton in the interior, experiments which have met with such success that one planter in Barnwell county has produced a 600-pound bale of the finest quality and he believes that with proper fertilizer a bale to the acre can be grown.

But there are experiments going on also in another line, quite as interesting and perhaps quite as important. This is hybridizing cotton and what is called "vegetable wool," thus producing a fibre that may be used as a substitute for fine wool.

Concerning this the Charleston News and Courier publishes the following from a correspondent who wrote about the "sea island cotton" grown in Barnwell, who says:

If you will kindly allow me to blow my horn a little more I will give you a "treat" which you may mistake for a plain Christmas drink, but a botanical and the highest standing, Herbert J. Webber, of the plant-breeding laboratory of Washington, D. C., says that my scheme is not chimerical or visionary and that his department will join hands with me.

These are various varieties of cotton that closely approximate wool and it is used by the woolen mills as a substitute for wool.

While not disposed to be incredulous as to the possibilities of success in such experiments the News and Observer facetiously puts its correspondent on his guard lest he run some risk by growing wool on cotton stalks in a State where in the rural regions there is such a prejudice against sheep, and suggests that if he wants to do the really popular thing he should devote his genius and efforts to producing sheep that will grow cotton fleeces instead of wool.

At first sight it does look a little chimerical to undertake to cross cotton and vegetable wool and so improve the plant as to produce a quality of fibre that will compare with fine wool, but there is nothing chimerical in it, for the vegetable wool is only a peculiar kind of cotton, it being in all probability a hybrid.

In these days of plant-blending no experiment should be laughed at or pronounced visionary until it has been tested, for some very remarkable feats in the line of hybridizing have been accomplished not only in producing fine qualities of the same thing but in producing what seem to be entirely new varieties.

On the experiment farm in Minnesota experiments in hybridizing wheat have been carried on so successfully all kinds have been produced which will bear much colder winters, and more severe droughts in summer, than the older varieties could, and which will yield much more to the acre. It is estimated that by the propagation of these varieties, and the distribution of the seed the wheat crop of the North-west growing States of the North-west has been increased in value \$12,000,000.

So much for experimenting in wheat, and the untiring industry, patience and perseverance of the men who have charge of these experiments.

One of the most interesting and suggestive papers we have ever read in such subjects was an illustrated article descriptive of the methods produced in the Minnesota experiment station in producing these new kinds of wheat.

Think it is, when you come to think of it, nothing astonishing in all this, for nature herself is the great hybridizer, and from comparatively few plants in the beginning has produced millions of kindred species, and many crosses between plants and living things which were apparently not kindred at all.

We have but little conception of what may be done in this respect until the effort, and sometimes persistent effort, is made. Nor have we any idea of how the area of cultivation may be enlarged for plants that seem to be limited to certain sections where the climate favors. It was thought, for instance, that the orange, a tropical fruit, could not be successfully grown north of the southern part of Louisiana, while there it was cultivated only to a limited extent. Now the U. S. Agricultural Department is experimenting in the growing of oranges and lemons so far north as Virginia, and the winter as well as the spring.

A BILLION DOLLAR COUNTRY.

When the late Thos. B. Reed was Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the appropriations ran up to something in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000,000, Congress was accused for its extravagance, but Mr. Reed made light of it, with flippant remark that "this is a billion dollar country." That is the idea that the Republican statesman have acted upon ever since, as a result of which the appropriations have steadily increased until now they are nearly twice as large as they were ten years ago.

The finest fruits we have to-day (and we have the finest in the world) are the result of hybridizing and grafting, producing not only finer varieties, but to all intents and purposes entirely new kinds, which may possibly be still further improved, giving still other varieties that will differ so materially from the parent stocks as to be practically a different species.

By culture and hybridizing we have peaches, plums, etc., in the royal presence of which their ancestors would look like mealy weaklings, incapable of producing such progeny, so that with the abundant and common illustration we have of the success and possibilities of hybridizing there is no reason to be incredulous as to what may be done until the intelligent experimenter has had a fair trial and failed.

Speaking of vegetable wool, we do not know whether much of it is grown or not, but we have seen hoes and other fabrics woven from that kind of wool grown in this State, which to the ordinary handler didn't seem to be different from the fabrics woven from wool grown in the usual way on the body of the sheep, and we wondered why it wasn't more of it grown.

There is a considerable immigration into the South but it is practically all from other sections of this country, scarcely any being from other countries, although we read from time to time of the purchase of large tracts of land for colonies from Europe.

Now, beyond dispute I have clearly demonstrated that here in the interior of South Carolina we can produce the very finest sea island cotton, which is being made into silk every day in the year, and ere the years are many I hope to see wool growing on cotton stalks.

Chairman McLeod, of the Western Passenger Association, in a table recently issued, makes the following numbers of immigrants for the year ending June 30, 1902, showing a total of over 700,000 immigrants, and it appears that of this number the state of New York got 308,594 and Pennsylvania 289,000.

Of the total number landed 2,987 have professions, 79,708 are skilled mechanics, 493,379 are unskilled miscellaneous and 118,149, including women and children, have no occupations. The statistics show that there are 1,410,000 persons in the United States, and 49,000 in the middle west Illinois had 48,848, and in the far west California drew the most, 15,098.

European laborers did not come South before the war on account of slave labor, with which they could not compete. They have the impression now that they cannot compete with free negro labor, and they give us a wide berth.

One of the notable features of this exhibit is the large number of immigrants who remain in the East and in the cities whereas in years past the bulk of the influx went West and most of them became farmers or found employment upon farms. But the opportunities for becoming farmers are not so good now in consequence of the decreased supply of cheap Government lands and hence there has been a check to the flow in that direction.

Many of them found cheap lands in the East, which the owners sell on account of the small compensation in farming, and the desire to try their fortunes in the cities.

We need never expect a large flow this way of European laborers, because the negro-s in the way, and it isn't new labor that we want any way, especially since the character of immigration has largely changed and we get much that is not of a desirable kind.

Dr. Lorenz, the Austrian, who has performed such remarkable cures of crippled children, since his arrival in this country, puts at rest the story of his immense fees, by the statement that the largest fee he has received was one of \$30,000, the others barely paying his expenses and trouble, in fact most of his service was gratuitous. But he is well pleased with his visit; the country and the people he has met. As far as money is concerned he says he could have made more in his practice at home.

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SPRITS TURPENTINE.

Stanley Enterprises: Our factories want to see quick action. The price of spirits turpentine has been steadily rising since the death of the bird on this market the protection has evidently already set in.

Will Hubbard's little two months' old boy died last week of spasms. This is his third child to die about the same age in the same manner.

Friday in Thomas bar room, in Marion, John McCain shot and killed his brother-in-law, Wm. H. Jones, a young man. His family knows of no reason why he should have committed the rash deed.

Mr. John Walden, who lives on East Harriet street, revealed at telegraph Friday afternoon from Graham, which conveyed the news that his brother, Walter Walden, aged 35, had frozen to death in the neck. The wounded man is not believed to be fatally wounded.

Salisbury Sun: Another unladen pistol got in its work at China Grove Christmas day. During the day Mr. N. P. Oranford, a man of 45, and Jim Hagler, a young man of 18, were handling a pistol in the bar room.

Fayetteville Observer: John Ashley was committed to jail by the Mayor to await trial for cutting a woman sometime ago near the mill. Ashley, a man of 35, was arrested and just been captured.

Winklinus. A frying pan becomes a chafin dish as it is used in society.

First Street Wait: "She died from eating too much ice cream." Second Street Wait: "No wonder she smelt."

Mean Old Man: "I don't believe your story, nor believe that you are blind. Prove it." Beggar: "If you don't believe me, I'll eat it."

Radical Cure: Biggs: "I understand Mr. Strongmild married her husband to reform him. Dogg: "He succeeded by doing so."

Wilmington District. B. B. JOHN, P. E., Wilmington, N. C.

Burgaw, Rocky Point, Jan. 3, 4. Southport, Jan. 11, 12. Shallotte, Oconee, Jan. 13. Town Creek, Jan. 14.

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GAIN FLESH.

An Absolute Necessity in Many Cases. A DECREASE IN WEIGHT FREQUENTLY INDICATES A DECLINE.

Our Modern Rebuilder, Vinol, Will Help You Do It. THE WAY IT ACTS ON A DEPLETED CONSTITUTION IS SIMPLY MARVELOUS.

Are you getting thin? If you are you had better watch yourself. Take Vinol. It will build you up quickly and surely.

A healthy man does not vary much from year to year in his weight. This is as it should be. Vinol enables the organs of the body to renew flesh.

Vinol acts upon the stomach in a beneficial way, enabling it to obtain from the food that is taken into it to build up the pure healthy body and increase the weight.

Mr. E. B. BACON—Steady; hams 15c per lb; corned beef, 12c; shoulders, 10c; sides, 12c.

EGGS—Firm at 21c per dozen. CHICKENS—Firm. Growns, 30c at 8c; springs, 12c at 25c.

TURKEYS—Firm at 10c per lb for live. BEEF—Firm at 10c per lb for live. TALLOW—Firm at 6c per lb for pressed.

SWEET POTATOES—Dull at 60c per bushel. FINANCIAL MARKETS. By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Money on call—Market was quoted at 6 1/8 per cent, closing offered at 6 1/2 per cent; time money firm—90 days and 90 days, 6 per cent; six months 5 1/2 per cent.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—There was a fair active trade on the board of trade today and after a weak opening the grain markets closed firm.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Cash prices: Flour quiet; spring wheat—No. 2, 72c; No. 3, 71c; No. 4, 70c; No. 5, 69c; No. 6, 68c.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The cotton market opened firm at an advance of four to six points on strong cables.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Spirits turpentine and rosin—Spirits turpentine quoted firm at 60c; receipts 614 casks.

COTTON MARKETS. By Telegram to the Morning Star. NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—The cotton market opened firm at an advance of four to six points on strong cables.

NATURAL HISTORY. There are forty-eight different kinds of house fly known and classified.

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COMMERCIAL.

Wilmington, N. C. (Quoted officially at the closing of the Chamber of Commerce.) SPIRITS TURPENTINE—Market firm at 52c per gallon.

ROBIN—Market firm at \$1.85 per barrel for strained and \$1.40 per barrel for good strained.

TAB—Market firm at \$1.60 per barrel of 80 pounds. CRUDE TURPENTINE—Market firm at \$1.75 per barrel for hard, \$3.00 for dip.

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PRODUCE MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 29.—Flour was dull but steadily held. Bye flour dull. Wheat—Spot steady; No. 3 red 83c.

Options—With the exception of December, which was firm early on covering, wheat ruled weak and heavy sell the forenoon under bearish arguments.

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MILLIONS OF WOMEN.

Preserve, Purify, and Beautify the Skin, Hair, and Hands with Cuticura SOAP.

Millions of women use Cuticura Soap for its purity and its ability to preserve the skin, hair, and hands.

Cuticura Soap is the only soap that contains a medicinal quality.

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