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Subscription Price. The subscription price of the Weekly Star is as follows: Copy 1 year, postage paid, \$1.00.

FACTS FOR COTTON GROWERS.

The convention of cotton planters to consider the question of a reduction of acreage has been called to meet in Memphis early in January. It is more than likely that this convention will decide that a reduction of acreage is advisable, and if it does, every cotton planter in the South, whether he plants much or little, should respond affirmatively to its decision.

ELKINS AND THE SEAL BUSINESS.

The nomination of Stephen B. Elkins as Secretary of War was in some respects a peculiar one, peculiar in the fact that Mr. Elkins is, or has been until quite recently, he is not now, the ardent admirer and the zealous and strong political adherent of Secretary Blaine.

MINOR MENTION.

Dun's review for the past week describes the business situation and prospects as bright and encouraging, and states that "money is plenty and cheap." We suppose this has reference to the money centers in the East, for it is anything but plenty or cheap in the South.

for, and the man that buys, whether he needs what he buys or not, is going to get it at the lowest possible price, and if there is an abundance of anything, he is not going to be in a hurry to buy, because he knows he can get it when he wants it, and as much as he wants, without any danger of having to pay a higher price by waiting.

If the cotton planters raised less cotton, sufficiently less to get near to or under the world's demand, or consumption, the buyers would be seeking the sellers instead of the sellers seeking them, and they would be willing to pay the prices asked rather than run the risk of losing the cotton.

Others besides cotton planters are interested in this, interested in their getting good prices, for cotton growing is a great industry in the South, and when it languishes business generally suffers in consequence. When it prospers all prosper.

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But Mr. Elkins' connection with the Behring sea seal business is fresher than the Star Route affair, although there is a great deal in that which the public do not know and which they never will know if it be left for Mr. Elkins, or his friend, Mr. Blaine, to tell. This, too, makes the appointment somewhat peculiar.

Several of our Southern ports are destined at no distant day to become great grain exporting ports. Notably among these now are Newport News, where a fine line of

steamers has been put on, and Galveston and New Orleans, neither of which has a regular line of steamers yet, the carrying trade being done by ocean tramps and other vessels chartered for that purpose.

It is said that Secretary Foster was influenced to issue the permit by a statement from Mr. Blaine that Lord Salisbury was not in good humor and would not do anything towards suppressing the slaughter of the seals.

Edward M. Field, of New York, has been judicially declared a lunatic, some banking firms having testified that they have for some time declined to do business with him because they did not consider him mentally competent to attend to business.

Secretary Blaine says he has not declared for Foraker, and yet he and Mr. Sherman nearly collided in the capitol a few days ago and neither spoke. It was not the first time, however, that these two distinguished citizens nearly collided.

The daughter of the late Dom Pedro, is said to have such a fine and well trained voice that she could rival the leading vocalists upon the stage. If she ever gets pressed for cash she can go out and raise a few notes.

At the closing of Cape Fear Academy for the holidays, a pleasant and significant ceremony occurred, not in the usual line of such affairs. It was pleasant to both teachers and pupils and significant of the respect held by the latter for the former.

Mr. W. S. O'Brien, whose appointment as Receiver for the First National Bank has been announced, is expected here Wednesday. The amount of his bond has been fixed at \$85,000.

Mr. H. W. Carroll, of Bennettsville, S. C., was in the city yesterday. Dr. E. W. Gasque and J. C. Mace, of Marion, S. C., were in the city yesterday.

The members of the syndicate making the purchase are all millionaires, and their being thus identified with business interests in Wilmington must redound to its welfare and prosperity; and if in their efforts for its advancement they are met with the cordial co-operation of its citizens, the staid old city will start on the biggest boom it has ever experienced.

The new company will put in the finest electric system in the South, costing \$350,000, and will make large expenditures in other directions.

The Western Union News of the 23rd has the following: The Western Union Telegraph Company has made a big jump in its charges for the transmission of messages.

The Bost. a steam yacht owned by Gen. S. H. Manning, left her wharf yesterday, towing a gondola, and on board the gondola were a festive hunting party bound for pleasure and pelts.

The students of the Academy testified their appreciation of their teacher by the presentation of a gold headed cane to Professor Catlett and gold pens each to Professors Seawell and Scales.

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THE STREET RAILWAY.

Sold to a Company of Northern Capitalists Who Will Put in an Electric Plant. A Promising Outlook for the City's Advancement.

Mr. John D. Bellamy, Jr., President of the Wilmington Street Railway Co., returned last night from New York city, where he has been for several days past negotiating with parties who proposed to purchase the Street Railway.

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RAILROAD NOTES.

Baltimore Sun: A gloomy Christmas was the portion of hundreds of the employees of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, under the order for a reduction of 25 per cent. in the shop employes of the entire system which was issued last week.

The Richmond and Danville has abolished extra fares on its "limited" between New Orleans and New York, via Atlanta and Washington.

The Central Railroad employees will have plenty of time in which to enjoy Christmas, if they can enjoy it under the circumstances. A local order has been issued regarding the closing of the shops of this division from 6 o'clock Wednesday morning, Dec. 31, until Monday morning, Jan. 4, 1892.

There is a strong disposition on the part of factors to advance less money to planters for next year's cotton crop. It is believed that the adoption of this plan will certainly result in a decrease of acreage.

The Savannah correspondent of the Atlanta Constitution has interviewed the leading cotton men of that city with regard to the outlook. He found them all awaiting the developments of the new year with much anxiety.

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INFLUENZA—LA GRIPPE.

The Appearance of the Malady—Its Cause and Progress—Carroll Sanitation May Result in Its Ravages—Good Advice from a Physician.

The reappearance of "the grip" with the appearance of cold weather bears testimony to its epidemic character and its probable origin from a specific germ.

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SPRITS TURPENTINE.

Raleigh News and Observer: Grand Secretary Bain, of the Grand Lodge of Masons, announces that the 10th annual communication will assemble in Raleigh January 18th.

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