

FRIDAY, September 8, 1897. In writing to change your address always give former address as well as full particulars as to where you wish your paper to be sent hereafter. Unless you do both changes can not be made.

SUBORDINATING THE GREAT TO THE LESS.

Many of the papers of the country, especially the gold papers, busy themselves these days in figuring up the value of the crops the farmers of this country have made this year, footing up somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000,000. They take the estimates of the respective crops, and from the market price present or prospective settle on the grand aggregate. The probabilities are that the crops grown in this country are worth a good deal more than that, but the farmers do not get that much money out of them, for there are others who have a good deal to do with the manipulating of the crops and reap a considerable percentage of what they bring before they reach their final destination.

It is somewhat remarkable that never before has there been such a general disposition to concede the vast importance of the agricultural industry, nor to concede the utter dependence of the country upon it for prosperity, and yet the only difference between this year and other years is that in consequence of the American farmer is getting better prices for his products than he has received for some years past, and is bringing some more money into the country. Money is coming in instead of going out. Instead of shipping gold to meet foreign obligations they are being met with wheat, corn, meat, cotton, &c. The only difference, we say, between this year and other years is the larger volume of such products that we will ship, for which we will get more money than usual. But in all the years our main reliance to bring money into the country from other countries has been on the products of our farms and pastures. The extent to which this goes is shown by the following table of exports for the fiscal year 1897:

Table with 4 columns: Class, Value, Per Cent, and 1897. Rows include Agriculture (688,787,990), Manufactures (276,857,861), Mining (31,838,199), Forestry (40,489,931), Fisheries (6,134,014), Miscellaneous (3,898,985), and Totals (\$1,688,001,800).

There was no boom in prices in the past fiscal year. We had fair crops, but there was not any extraordinary foreign demand as there is now, but yet out of a total of \$1,032,001,300 of exports the farms and pastures supplied \$683,787,990 worth, or considerably over half the total, and that at a low valuation, too. There was no dollar wheat nor thirty-six cent corn. Last year was a year of depression following several other years of depression, from which we are apparently beginning to emerge, but if it hadn't been for these \$683,787,990 worth of agricultural products that went abroad in exchange for money, or something which was the equivalent of money, where would we have been, commercially speaking? And yet the important part which the farmer played last year, and has been playing all along in supplying the materials for commerce which bring money into the country, or in meeting our obligations abroad, seems to have escaped recognition, if not notice, until this year.

Strange to say, in view of this fact, that the policy of American statesmanship for the greater part of thirty odd years has been to subordinate this great industry to lesser industries, to handicap and cripple it to foster others, others which figure very little in our foreign commerce compared with it. This is one of the reasons why the prices of our agricultural products have been forced down. This fostering process by discouraging interchange of products with other countries has resulted in stimulating production in other countries and diverting European purchasers to these, thus at the same time creating formidable competition and driving our erstwhile consumers into other markets.

If our statesmen had given one-half the labor and thought to fostering the agricultural industry within the past thirty odd years that they have given to fostering manufactures, the American farmer would have command of the world market yet, and would not be competing with other countries and be forced to sell his products in competition with countries like Argentina, for instance, which can put wheat down on the docks at Liverpool at a figure very little above what it costs the American farmer to produce it, and which he couldn't begin to cope with if it wasn't for the labor-saving machinery which enables him to cultivate large areas and produce large crops. If he used hand labor to the same extent that it is used by his foreign competitors he would have to go out of business so far as other countries are concerned.

Perhaps the conspicuous part which the farmer is now playing as a wealth producer may serve as an object lesson to open the eyes of our so-called statesmen to the folly of strangling this great industry to foster lesser ones, which are able to take care of themselves.

Senator Chandler says both President McKinley and Senator Hanna are really anxious for the free coinage of both silver and gold, but neither is anxious enough for it to say so. At present they are both thinking about working the trick to get Hanna back into the Senate for a six years roost more than about either silver or gold.

Dispatches from Madrid say that Spain would have granted autonomy to Cuba some time ago if it hadn't been for the moral and material support the rebels received from this country. So it seems that Spain has spent a couple hundred millions of dollars and sacrificed forty or fifty thousand lives just to spite the Yanks.

Dollar wheat may strike the farmer who has wheat to sell and the speculator who is on the winning side as a first rate thing, but the bread buyer who has to tug along on old wages isn't in it. It is about time for the Dingley tariff to begin to boost wages so that the workman will not have to cut down his bread rations.

Dr. Thos. W. Evans, the Paris dentist who went to that city about forty years ago and became famous and rich, returned to New York a few days ago to bury his dead wife. He is said to be worth about \$35,000,000.

Dollar wheat under the contracted gold system, means more money for wheat and dearer bread for the people. With the double standard, it would mean not only more money for wheat, but higher wages and more ability to buy the bread.

Col. John L. Cantwell, Secretary of the Produce Exchange, received by telegraph yesterday the following statement of the cotton crop of the United States for the year ending August 31: New Orleans Cotton Exchange official statement of the cotton crop of the United States for the year ending August 31, 1897. Export receipts, 8,620,100 bales; overland, 940,488; Southern consumption, net, 988,883. Total crop, 8,797,964 bales.

The American silver dollar to-day is worth, in exchange, nearly two and a half Mexican dollars, and yet the Mexican dollar contains more pure silver than the American dollar. In Mexico the coinage of silver is unlimited; in the United States it is limited, and there you have the explanation of the phenomenon.

This is an explanation that doesn't explain. Mexico is a silver-using country, and our silver passes current there at its face value, simply because the Mexican who takes it can buy goods or pay debts with it on this side of the line, and therefore it is as good to him as gold; but when the American deals with gold countries then his silver simply goes at its bullion value, and therefore the American does not offer to pay with silver coin. In gold countries the stamp it bears isn't recognized at all, and it is dumped in simply as so much bullion. For this reason Americans who go abroad on pleasure or business take letters of credit in gold and spend and pay gold, not silver. In Mexico the silver dollar of that country is worth its face value and will buy as much as silver would. It is only when it crosses the border and comes in contact with the gold standard that its value falls and it takes rank as bullion. Unlimited coinage has nothing to do with the case in that country, nor limited coinage in this.

quently their skilled workmen are trained to this. Speed is not required of them nor expected, and the result is that they plod away content to produce in several days what the faster moving, more nimble handed and more ambitious workmen on this side, who do not expect to spend their lives at the bench or lathe, produce in one.

The State of Wisconsin has purchased a 160-acre farm about a mile from the State University at Madison, where students of bucolic tendencies can find exercise and recreation. From a utilitarian standpoint this is a much better form of diversion than boating, batting and kicking balls with the concomitant gouglings, half pulling, nose smashings, etc, for which the aforesaid games are becoming quite notorious.

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DEATH OF MR. ALFRED MARTIN. One of Wilmington's Oldest and Most Highly Respected Citizens.

Mr. Alfred Martin, one of the oldest and most highly respected citizens of Wilmington, died at his residence, 590 Dock street, at 9:30 o'clock last night. He had reached the advanced age of 83 years, and for several months had been confined to his room.

Mr. Martin was born in Virginia on the 4th of January, 1814, but shortly afterward his family went to Gaillard county, this State, to live. In early manhood he came to Wilmington and took a clerkship in the postoffice under the late Christopher Dudley, Jr., who was postmaster at the time. He held this position for a number of years, and married a daughter of Mr. Dudley, Miss Christian C. Dudley.

Many years prior to the war Mr. Martin formed a co-partnership in the naval stores business with Mr. R. G. Rankin, the firm continuing in existence until Capt. Rankin was killed in the latter part of the war. Mr. Martin continued the business until 1887, when a stroke of paralysis made his retirement from active life necessary. All his business relations were marked by the strictest integrity and by a degree of prudence and perseverance that brought merited financial recompense for his labors.

Besides being closely connected with the life of Wilmington for many years, he was almost equally prominent in local political circles. The office of mayor of the city was bestowed upon him one or more times, and he was one of the town commissioners during the prevalence of the yellow fever in 1853, remaining resolutely at the post of duty, though stricken with the fever himself. The Masonic Order found in Mr. Martin one of its most devoted and enthusiastic supporters, and rewarded his zeal by making him Grand Master of the Order of Masons in North Carolina. Up to the time of his death he was a member of St. John's Lodge and had connected himself with the Knights Templar and Concord Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. A valued communicant of St. James' Church, he had served as vestryman for several terms.

Four children, two sons and two daughters, survive the deceased. They are Mr. Eugene S. Martin, a well known and successful lawyer; Mr. W. A. Martin, who is engaged in the naval stores business; Mrs. Emma Maffitt, widow of Capt. J. N. Maffitt, of the Confederate States navy, and Mrs. Kate Maffitt, the widow of E. A. Maffitt, of the Confederate States navy and an officer on the "Alabama."

The funeral will be conducted at 5 o'clock this afternoon at St. James' church.

THE COTTON SEASON. Receipts for the Past Year Show a Large Increase as Compared With Receipts the Year Previous.

Yesterday, August 31st, closed the cotton year. The business in cotton during the year was considerably larger than that of the preceding year, and is gratifying to all those who desire to see evidence of growth in every line of business that Wilmington is interested in.

A FAIR MEETING IN RESPONSE TO THE CALL ISSUED LAST WEEK.

Editorial Subscriptions Made and Authorized to be Made—Committee Appointed to Canvass for Subscriptions, Etc.

In response to the call issued by the incorporators of the Southern Exposition and Athletic Association, a number of citizens assembled last night at the City Hall to perfect the organization of the association and to take steps towards making the proposed Fair a success.

At 8:45 o'clock Mr. Wm. E. Springer, one of the incorporators, called the meeting to order and stated its object; he also stated that on account of the small crowd it seemed to be the opinion to postpone the meeting until Tuesday night, Sept. 20th, but that he thought an expression of those present in regard to the Fair would be a good thing.

On motion of Mr. Marcus Jacob, Mr. Wm. E. Springer was elected temporary chairman. Mr. Jacob then, for about fifteen minutes, spoke in favor of the Fair.

Mr. Springer said he didn't think the meeting was prepared to map out the work for raising subscriptions, etc., for the Fair.

Mr. B. F. Keith said he was also heartily in favor of the Fair, and that he thought it should be of an agricultural nature; that Wilmington had been built up by its natural advantages and naval stores; but what was now needed was consent of action, and that they should get the farmer and the tiller of the soil interested. He further said that people should be brought to our city and shown its advantages, and then they would see that the people of Wilmington were worthy of their labor, capital and enterprise.

Mr. S. W. Sanders was called upon and expressed himself in full accord with the movement on foot.

Mr. Geo. G. Lewis said Governor Russell had authorized him to say that he (Lewis) would subscribe fifty dollars towards the Fair. Mr. Lewis thought it would be a good idea to extend the Fair, letting other counties near-by, about twelve, have an interest in it, and elect one man from each county on the board of directors.

HOW TO FIND OUT. Fill a bottle or common glass with urine and let it stand twenty-four hours; a sediment or settling indicates an unhealthy condition of the kidneys. When urine stains linen it is evidence of kidney trouble.

There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in relieving pain in the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every part of the urinary passages. It corrects inability to hold urine and scalding pain in passing it, or bad effects following use of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that unpleasant necessity of being compelled to get up to urinate during the night, to urinate. The mild and yet extraordinary effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. It does not need a medicine you should have the best. Sold by druggists, price fifty cents and one dollar. You may have a sample bottle and pamphlet both sent free by mail. Mention the WILMINGTON STAR and send your address to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. The proprietors of this paper guarantee the genuineness of this offer.

RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS' ANSWERS TO THE CHARGES MADE BY GOVERNOR RUSSELL.

Assigned by Counsel for Maj. Wilson—The Act Upon Which the Governor Moved Claimed to be Unconstitutional—The Governor Reserves His Decision.

Major Wilson will file with his answer to Governor Russell's letter an affidavit sworn by V. E. McBee, the General Superintendent of the Seaboard, but for merely Superintendent of the Southern—Statement that Mr. J. W. Wilson, Jr., a son of Major J. W. Wilson, was appointed agent at Morganton by him (McBee) and that in making the appointment he did not consult Major Wilson. The affidavit further states that young Mr. Wilson was a clerk in the Morganton office prior to his appointment as agent and proved himself competent to fill the vacancy.

An affidavit signed by every business man in Morganton was also filed, stating that Mr. Wilson had been a well known and popular agent and had given entire satisfaction.

Col. J. D. Shaw, of Rockingham, is counsel for both Maj. Wilson and S. O. Wilson. Mr. Ocho Wilson also retains J. C. L. Harris.

Major Wilson filed his answer to Governor Russell's charges on the Railway Commissioners' office to-day at 12:30 o'clock. All the commissioners were present and a few prominent citizens. The counsel for the commissioners read their answers.

Col. John D. Shaw spoke in behalf of Maj. Wilson. He said the act upon which the Governor had moved was unconstitutional; that the commissioners had properly right in the office. He held that the supplemental act of 1891, and that a commissioner could only be removed as a judge of record.

Col. Shaw said the commissioners had been charged with corruption and not with being owners of the Southern Railway property. He held that they could not be removed on such charge under the act of the Governor.

CAROLINA BEACH. Meeting of Members of the N. W. Pleasure Club—A Building to be Erected on Land Donated by Capt. Jao.

The members of the club to be established at Carolina Beach met last night at the City Hall to organize. On motion of Mr. W. A. French, Jr., Mr. W. L. Smith was called to the chair, and on motion of Mr. R. W. Wallace Mr. W. A. French Jr. was elected temporary secretary and treasurer.

On motion, the following gentlemen were appointed to constitute an advisory board, viz: Capt. Jno. W. Harper (chairman) and Messrs. D. C. Lyle, H. E. Boni, E. Schulten and H. D. Springer.

On motion of Mr. W. A. French, Jr., Herbert McClammy, Esq., was requested to draft a charter for the club.

On motion of Mr. H. E. Boni it was decided to call a meeting and adopt the charter as soon as Mr. McClammy completed it.

The chair inquired if any plan for the style of the club-house building had been thought of.

Mr. W. A. French, Jr., stated that it seemed to be the unanimous opinion that the building should have two stories and contain a dancing hall 40 by 60 feet and a ladies' toilet room on the second floor, besides other rooms for various purposes.

A name for the club was then discussed, and Capt. Harper suggested offering a season ticket to and from Carolina Beach on the steamer Wilmington to the young lady offering the most suitable and acceptable name for the club. Capt. Harper also stated that he would donate the pass.

On motion, Capt. Harper's suggestion was unanimously adopted and his generous offer accepted.

Easy to Take Easy to Operate. Are features peculiar to Hood's Pills. Small in size, tasteless, efficient, thorough. As one man said: "You never know you have taken a pill till it is all over."—Dr. C. H. Hood & Co., Proprietors, Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills. FROM THE KLONDIKE. A Newspaper Man's Report on the Situation in the Gold Regions—The Gold Outlook for the East.

Bullion has received a letter from Mr. Charles Haines, dated Dawson City, July 26th. Mr. Haines is a well known newspaper writer, and his letter is the first written by a trained newspaper man to come out of the Klondike gold regions. He says:

"The rich diggings have been comparatively idle during the summer, and the output from E. Dorado and Bonanza creeks was famous and there is plenty of gold in sight. There is every prospect of an immense output of gold from this district next spring. The total output this season is, as near as can be judged, about \$7,000,000, but very little ground has been worked. The output will, like some of the tall tales of the Klondike placers, pan out thousands of dollars when worked with improved machinery. The placers are the most puzzling and deceiving have ever been seen. Imagine a man working a good color" and finding the ground worth only a few dollars per day, and then finding it is a waste of mud and moss, with no surface indications and unearthing a bonanza. That is the situation here and all over Alaska. The man who comes here to find gold, yet there is health and happiness, and it is with him a question of making a fortune quickly or chances with death. About me are scores of men who can weigh their gold in the balance full of dirt. Four hundred valuable diggings are stretched along creeks, and every digger is a laborious man who has taken the output of his country whose disadvantages are exceeded by no other place on earth.

This Alaskan northwest territory is an odd piece of ground, a proposition that can lead to nothing for a minute or a better comparison than a lottery.

"A number of spots are selected on the creeks and rivers and for one year the miner labors. The year closes, the water runs and the season is over. The miner pays expenses. Not two miles away from the unfortunate one works a man who has taken out an unwinning lot of spots is sack full of dirt. The lucky one did not strike the pocket because of his ability as a miner. Chance favored him and that was all. In short, the miner is a gambler who loses here and everywhere. In nineteen cases out of twenty he misses it and has to wait another year for a new trial. Dawson men who have taken out long hauls and a mass of tents, about six hundred in number. When the long nights come and the glass goes down to sixty-five degrees below zero, there will be intense cold here, and I shudder to think of the results.

"Provisions are going to be very scarce and there is little reason to doubt that the entire town will have to get on the ration. During the winter the scurvy will be rampant. The gold that will go down the river for San Francisco and Seattle will amount to about \$8,000,000. There is a lot of gold that is being mined during the winter, but the equivalent of money and is legal tender at \$17 per ounce. Of the 3,000 or 4,000 inhabitants only a couple of hundred at the most have big strikes. The rest are poor. Many have lost \$15 or \$20 per day, and many men have saved \$250 or less for living and saved the balance. Reports of other strikes are constantly received here and many are authentic. As Stewart and Polly rivers are concerned, but nothing like so rich as the Klondike has been reported. Quite a number of people are preparing to leave for the Klondike. The gold steamers cannot get through with provisions, and the outlook for a good grub supply is not encouraging.

In conclusion, the Alaska and the Northwest Territory fields will be developed slowly. Ten thousand men may come here, but they will be lost when they spread out to prospect. Not more than 500 of them will strike a mine. When they do strike pay gruel, their fortunes will be made. In years to come, when at the sacrifice of human life and energy, the treasures of the North will be something beyond comprehension."

U. S. MINISTER WOODFORD. Left for St. Petersburg for the Spanish Court at San Sebastian to Present His Credentials.

WASHINGTON, September 1.—Mr. Woodford, the United States Minister to Spain, has advised the State Department that he will leave Paris to-day for San Sebastian, the seat of the Spanish Court in Summer. It is generally expected that the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs at San Sebastian and that he will be recognized by the Spanish Government immediately. The transaction is an emergency character and such as does not involve questions of large policy. This limitation, of course, will delay for a time the political questions Cuba, but the delay will not last long, since, as soon as the Spanish Court returns to Madrid, Mr. Woodford will be accorded full recognition as a minister plenipotentiary and will be in position to present his views immediately.

Relief in Six Hours. Distressing Headache and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the NEW GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE. This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding prompt relief of all pain in the bladder, kidney, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. Be sure you get a quick relief and cure, this your remedy. Sold by R. R. Bellamy, Druggist, Wilmington, N. C., corner of Front and Market streets.