

Raleigh as a Cotton Market.

We publish the following letter from Messrs. Williamson, Upchurch & Thomas, which fully sustains what we have heretofore said editorially:

Raleigh, N. C., April 21st, 1874.

R. T. Fulghum, Esq., Ed. State Agricultural Journal:

DEAR SIR:—Please pardon us for asking a small space in your valuable paper in order, to some extent at least, to correct a very general misapprehension that exists on the part of the farmers, or rather more especially the cotton producers of that section of country that lies contiguous and say within fifty to one hundred miles of Raleigh. We allude to the version or idea formed of Raleigh as a cotton market compared with that of New York or any of the northern markets, derived from the quotations as given in the newspapers of the day. To illustrate, we give the quotations of the New York cotton exchange market report of to-day. Say, uplands 17 5-8, Orleans 18. These quotations are for middling cotton, the former price being for the productions of the more northern cotton States, the latter price for the extreme Southern States. Now the quotation as given in our dailies, and other papers in the city, of this date, is for low middling (oftentimes no grade given at all) 15 5-8 cents, while middling would bring here 16 5-8 cents. To one not thoroughly understanding the New York quotations of 17 5-8 cents, compared with the Raleigh quotations of 15 5-8 cents, would very readily arrive at the conclusion that there was two cents difference or margin between the New York market and that of our own, which would be inviting to ship your cotton North. Now there is really only one cent difference or margin as to grade (and sometimes even less) which we will here explain. The press quotations for uplands (middling) in New York of to-day is 17.62½; quotations for low middling, 16.62½. Quotations and sales for low middling in Raleigh of to-day is 15.62½, thereby showing a difference in favor of New York of only one cent per pound in low middling cotton, when it is a well known and indisputable fact to all those who have tried it (and they are lessening every season) that in shipping cotton to New York it cost from 1½ to 1¾ cents per pound [the latter for a heavy] to pay freight, and loss in weight, &c., and at least 30 days before you can get returns for sales of your cotton, thereby showing clearly that Raleigh is your best market, by from ½ to ¾ cent per pound, which is a difference of \$2.25 to \$3.37½ gain to you in a bale of 450 pounds. Or, say a gain of from \$75,000 to \$100,000 in cotton that will be sold in Raleigh during this season, over what it would have brought by shipping North. Those who persist in sending their cotton North do not participate in this gain, and of course suffer to the extent of their shipment.

Now these are incontrovertible facts, and as such, is it not clearly to your interest, if not your desire, to ship to our market? If you do not wish to sell, and desire to realize on your cotton, we have ample banking and storing facilities, and a number of good cotton commission merchants to afford you every accommodation needed. We would here remark, that while the banks in New York, Baltimore, Petersburg, and many other cities suspended during the panic we are just emerging from, there was not one of our four banks that refused to pay every and all demands made upon it. The steadily increasing receipts of cotton at our city, is an evident fact that the farmers and shippers of cotton are beginning to find out it is to their manifest interest to ship and sell in our market. We verily believe when the people of Wake, Orange, Alamance, Chatham, Moore, Harnett, Johnston, Franklin, Granville, and the more Eastern counties of our State, find out by actual shipments, that it is to their interest to sell in our market, the receipts will soon be 50,000 bales, nay, 100,000 bales during the season, instead of 30,000 to 35,000 bales which is the accepted estimate of receipts for this season. We could say much more in justification of Raleigh as the best cotton market for the people of our State, but fearing we have already trespassed upon your space, we are,

Yours most truly,
WILLIAMSON, UPCHURCH & THOMAS,
Cotton Factors and General Commission Merchants.

—It is reported that the merchants of Raleigh are opposed to the N. C. Agricultural Society, and the Fair, because the railroads will take the passengers to the Fair Grounds instead of "unloading" in Raleigh. Can this be true? We don't believe the merchants of our rapidly growing city are so selfish. Poor farmers, the Patrons of Husbandry will protect you. A word to the wise, &c.

A Successful Home Institution.

Interested as we are in the success of all home institutions, we learn with pride and satisfaction that the N. C. State Life Insurance Company, now at the close of its first year's existence, has done a business beyond its most sanguine anticipations. It has written over 900 policies, and has sustained no loss. Heretofore, its operations have been confined to our own State, but we are informed that it will now proceed to establish agencies in adjoining States, and we do not doubt that a few years will give it a national reputation.

We advise our readers all to insure their lives. Every man, we think, ought to insure. Men who are deeply in debt, and whose death would ruin their families; and men whose personal services are valuable, and the sole, or main stay of whose families are those personal services, we think should take out life policies. Be careful in insuring. Do not take any greater burden on your shoulders than you think you can walk under. Don't be importuned into insuring by agents, unless you really are persuaded you ought to insure. But should you so decide, you may safely trust the N. C. Insurance Company, to whose card in this issue, we call our friends especial attention.

We say that the merchants of Raleigh—that is the thoroughgoing merchants—are the friends of the N. C. Agricultural Society. The well known merchant, Alex. Creech, has subscribed, and has paid \$525 to the support of the State Fair—1873-'74.

Patrons of Husbandry.

Officers of the State Grange:

- Master—COLUMBUS MILLS, Concord, N. C.
- Overseer—RICHARD WILLIAMS, Greenville, Pitt Co., N. C.
- Lecturer—J. S. LONG, Newbern, N. C.
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NORTH CAROLINA STATE GRANGE

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.,
March 20th, 1874.

[CIRCULAR NO. 7.]

Notice is hereby given that T. G. Garrett, Esq., a worthy member of our Order, has been appointed Purchasing Agent for our State at St. Louis, Mo. He will also attend to making special arrangements for freight to different points in N. C.

G. W. LAWRENCE,
Secretary.

Extract from the Address of the National Grange.

"We emphatically and sincerely assert the oft-repeated truth taught in our organic law that the Grange, National, State, or subordinate—is not a political or party organization. No Grange, if true to its obligation, can discuss political questions, nor call political conventions, nor nominate candidates, nor even discuss their merits in their meetings."

—Patrons, beware of politics and politicians!

Progress of the Grange Movement.

The advancement of the wonderful Order called the Patrons of Husbandry, is not to be measured by the accumulation of Granges, or the almost miraculous accession of members. This, it is true, is a very startling and stimulating feature of the movement, just as the quick enlistment and drilling of soldiers, would be an encouraging sign of a satisfactory preparation for war. But the real development of our power is seen in the increased moral influence which we are bringing to bear upon the hallucinations of primitive agricultural methods, upon the stubborn ramparts of commercial prejudice and speculation, and upon the corrupt agencies and systems which have so long ruled and ruined this country. The Grange theory thrusts itself in among the diseases and chronic ailments of the body politic as a fresh medical treatment, divested of all quack nostrums, and patent mockeries, and having formed a sensible diagnosis of the complaints of the sufferers, addresses itself at once to the purest and noblest principles of the healing art. If it becomes necessary to use the knife, as in the old ulcerous manifestations of the railroads and middlemen, the surgeon's skill is employed, not to kill the invalid, or to serve the purpose of a mere professional notoriety, but to

bring back the system to its highest standard of regulated vitality and force. Hence we find the moral convictions of the people everywhere, which must ever underlie their solid prosperity and improvement, turning to this mammoth organization as the endangered traveller turns to the pilot in the storm. We are expected to remedy all errors, cure all abuses, rectify all mistakes, and accomplish all successes. If political troubles have come upon the country, although we are not political, and steadfastly set our forces against all interference with political questions, yet we are expected in some sort of unaccountable way to remove demagogues, restrain corruption, and purify legislation. We are required to dose powerful corporations with a kind of moral opium, so their deliberations may be confused, their jesuitical plottings forestalled, and order and harmony produced out of the chaos of selfish entanglements.

Now all this is very well, provided it does not lead to extravagant and impolitic hopes, founded on a narrow and unpatriotic basis. But however this may be, there is one thing particularly plain, that these sanguine expectations indicate the broad hold which the Patrons of Husbandry have upon the conscience and intelligence of this money-loving age. It proves that the nation gives us credit for honesty of purpose, purity of character, and fullness and thoroughness of organization. And it shows beyond doubt, that in keeping ourselves free from the local and bitter issues of partisan warfare, we have placed ourselves upon the high and royal road to honor, influence and usefulness. Here is the key to the arithmetic of our rapid growth and amazing development. An enlightened public sentiment accepts us as an honest guide, sagacious in our policy, catholic in our opinions, but obstinate in our integrity. It knows that if Providence has bestowed any potent wand to part the waters in our front, or to arrest the embattled hosts pressing on our rear, it has been given to an organization free from sectional strife, and seeking the universal good; that if there is any pillar of cloud or flame to guide the weary footsteps of a people struggling to be relieved from the tyranny of avarice, or to unite with the devoted brotherhood of farmers, who have so long endured hardship, poverty and suffering. And so it yields a generous confidence to our motives, principles and plans.

And then, in the legislation, which has already been effected for the improvement of the farmers' condition, millions of dollars have been saved to the farms of this country. In North Carolina we have been able, as yet, to do comparatively little. Though numbering over three hundred Granges, our State organization is not yet a year old. It requires time, experience, money, and information to complete plans of intercommunication. But we venture the opinion, that there are but very few members of the order, however isolated, or inconveniently situated, who have not had their current expenses reduced by the facilities of trade established between the buyer and the seller. Well methodized local agencies are springing up all over the land. Extravagant profits upon dry goods, agricultural implements, and groceries, which used to burden the revenues of the farm beyond endurance, are now being struck off for the benefit of agriculture, and well established mercantile houses are glad to put in their bids for the patronage of our Granges. Very soon the productions of the Western farmer will come to us directly by the shortest routes, and with the cheapest transportation. The Northern cities, instead of being vast, greedy hives of avaricious middlemen, plucking the last dollar of the oppressed tiller of the soil, to glut their plethoric treasuries, shall become the great centres of an honorable and independent commerce, "living and let live," and purer and better days shall dawn both for trade and agriculture. This may be thought to be a fancy picture, but we had rather paint such pictures as this, than to sit down with a mean pipe in a smoky corner, and grumble all day because God did not make the world to suit us.

Commendable.

The Grange at Banks, in this county, has offered a premium of \$25 for the largest yield of cotton on one acre. A statement of the manner of manuring and mode of cultivation will be required from each competitor; and the Secretary of the Grange will have the same published.

At the Cape Fear and Deep River Council.

Half Fare—Turpentine, vs. Farming—Resolutions on Protection of Sheep—State Agricultural Journal Commended, &c., &c.

The Western Rail Road is proverbial for the accommodating spirit of its officials. First, the polite conductor warns you that the train will soon start, in order that the shrill whistle may not find you unprepared. It is said that they stop on this road for the passengers to gather 'huckleberries.' It being too early in the season for this delicious fruit, I can neither affirm nor deny this assertion. I can say they made good time, and the ride was as agreeable as the small number of passengers, and the barren country through which we passed, would allow.

It seems that this road purposely avoided "every man's door" for very few dwellings relieve the monotonous desert of pines which everywhere meets the eye. With nobody on the train to talk to, and no houses, farms, or stock to arrest the eye—it is not difficult to philosophize or to sleep. In looking on this never ending waste of pines—some say orchard—the question presents itself to what extent are these pine barrens capable of being converted into fruitful fields? One has very little to found an argument on, as almost no farms are visible. Everywhere is the turpentine running down the skinned faces of the lofty pines, in the barrels ready for shipment, at the distilleries, to have its oil separated from it, one sees it, smells it, breathes it. Evidently there will be no farming on those pine ridges, as long as turpentine bears a high price.

But even sand hills and pine barrens will have an end, and at length we reach Fayetteville and the Council. The members of this body of farmers had the look neither of the dandy nor the politician. They looked rather like earnest, business men, who came there for duty. There was certainly no disposition to delay business by much speaking. They had not forgotten their farms at home, and were evidently quite willing that everything should be dispatched without unnecessary debate.

A resolution, from "Chatham Central" to the interests of sheep husbandry in N. C., that they be protected from the ravages of dogs, and calling on all bodies of Patrons of Husbandry to unite with them in petitioning the Legislative bodies to grant the needed protection, received the hearty support of the Council, and it was resolved to send this resolution to the STATE AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL, with request to publish, and call the attention of Granges throughout the State to it. The STATE AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL received a word of commendation, and all Granges were urged to subscribe for a copy to be preserved for reference.

Committees were appointed to report at the next meeting in September next, on schools and on a co-operative store.

I do not intend to give the proceedings of the Council—a copy has already been sent you, I presume.

The Western Road returned delegates free. The fare on this road is low—\$1, from Egypt to Fayetteville, about two cents a mile, I think.

I regret very much that the Council adjourned so soon. I wished much to make the personal acquaintance of more of the members. It is to be hoped that, at future meetings, everyone will come prepared to stay longer, and that much real work will be done in the interest of the farmer.

H.

—The demands upon our columns this week have been so great that we are again compelled to omit the By-Laws and Constitution of Cape Fear Council. They will, however, be given space in our next.

Resolutions on Sheep Husbandry.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
CHATHAM CENTRAL GRANGE, No. 224,
Pittsboro, N. C., April 18, 1874.

Resolved, That it is highly important to the interests of Sheep Husbandry to protect them from the ravages of dogs, and that this Grange earnestly requests all other Granges and Councils of the P. of H. to unite with this body in petitioning our legislative bodies to pass such laws as may be necessary to this end.

Resolved 2d, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the STATE AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL for publication.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted at a regular meeting, held on the 4th instant.

N. A. RAMSEY, Sec'y.