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GOOD FARMING DOES PAY.

The Real Truth Fairly Told—Light Breaking and Hope Ahead.

For the Mecklenburg Times.

In former articles I named many persons who make money farming, despite all drawbacks. But I also showed that most of our cotton growers realized no net profits even when cotton was high—10 cents and upwards. That as a whole the South was not advancing in wealth, beyond that incidental to her increase of population and the sub-division of land, and the diversification of her industries. In point of fact, the larger share of profits of our cotton crops, go North and West; still the South clings to cotton; and there is a devotion to it, that has heretofore defied all reason. Elsewhere agriculture is able to sustain itself mainly on the cereals, hay, and stock, shipping largely to us. We have all these, and the great money crop—cotton—in addition thereto, and yet remain poor. Here is a bundle of contradictions hard to explain; but a close analysis will show certain facts each tending to apparent good results in mere theory, and yet ending in disaster, as a financial whole.

COTTON A GOOD CROP.

The very best in the world; requiring no special skill and little capital; always a money crop and the easiest kept and handled of all great staples. Better still, it is the one crop on which the merchant and fertilizer man will risk their money. It is, moreover, limited in the extent of country naturally growing the plant; and yet every part of this royal plant can now be used for products in demand, the wide world over. No wonder our people once thought it a "King." They know better now.

ITS DANGERS.

Its very excellencies have beset it with temptations and risks the average farmer is powerless to resist. Hence the crop, though limited to territory, is always subject to an easy and rapid increase in production. The slightest rise stimulates greed, pride, and wild speculation. While, on the other hand, it is a purely sectional crop, outside of the sympathy and protection of national legislation, and so only the more exposed to the insidious attack of all other interests. This makes it the most dangerous of all products to deal in; and yet it is the one on which the South has for over 50 eventful years, time and again, staked

her all, and failed. It is difficult to explain this strange infatuation, especially since the terrible lessons of the war. But we will never see any relief until we look our danger squarely in the face.

COTTON A GREAT GAMBLING CROP.

It is the only field crop, our Southern laborer, the average negro laborer, fully understands. If it chances to hit all round, the apparent profits are simply marvellous. This, with its ready cash value, easy handling, and speculative demand, tempts all classes to the most desperate risks. But a cold or wet spring, a long drought, or rainy spell in summer, an early frost, or a fall in the price, may blight all these hopes, and leaves the gambling cotton farmer, and the great cotton section utterly bankrupt. The average cotton farmer and planter, especially the small farmer, and more especially still, the negro cropper, is not to be blamed for the passion for cotton, for it is his "all in all."

Since the years 1831-2-3, when the South set out to resist and resent the unjust Abolition movement then fully started against her, she ceased to study all else except cotton and the negro. This led to the fatal error and delusion, that we had a "grand monopoly of cotton," and that the darkey could only survive as a slave, and was only fit for cotton work. This master idea developed the old planter class of the Southern white man into the most daring, bold, and adventurous race of soldiers and statesmen the world has ever produced. We made a heroic fight, and only failed in battle, because the fates were against us on this one vital industrial problem. The world was against us on cotton and the negro. The world was right and we went down in defeat and disaster. On the abstract questions of home defence, and State rights, we might have won. But cotton and the darkey led us to ruin.

But even defeat in battle, failed to open an eyes on this great delusion. When in 1865-6, we found cotton 50 cents a pound we swore harder than ever that "cotton was after all a king," "the negro would not work, the race would soon die out, and that the South would yet get the yankee." From that day to this the whole industrial South has been gambling on a "rise in cotton." Under this delusion, a friend of mine at Concord, who came out of the war with \$100,000 in cotton, would not sell at 50 cents (!) but went in debt for more,

and finally died insolvent. This good man was a Christian farmer: so far as I know, and believe did not speculate in "futures," but it was, none the less, nothing short of down right "farmer gambling."

Ten years ago, a tenant agent of mine here near Charlotte, lost his whole estate of \$4,000 in "cotton futures." And for more than 25 years the South has been periodically betting on a "rise," involving all classes of people and interests, and losing us hundreds of millions that ought have been made and kept right here at home. Meantime, we now find the "king" on a steady decline, and lower than ever known before; the negro still alive and at work; the crop of 1890 a million bales larger than any ever made, and chiefly by the darkeys in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas, where you can hardly kill them and the planters beg for more. Worse than all, we now wake up to find that they not only raise the "grand monopoly" in India, and in Egypt, but that Russia and China are taking their chances.

Now cast up the other side of the account. North Carolina pays out annually \$2,500,000 for farm horses and mules, many from Kansas and Wyoming (!) which owing to cheaper labor and capital here than there, could be actually raised here in Mecklenburg for less than they cost in Kansas and Missouri. So, too, we get corn, flour, forage and meats from all the West; potatoes from Scotland, and cabbage from Germany, and turkeys from Richmond. Farmers of Mecklenburg, tell me if you can, why these things are so?

We know, as a fact, that all these imported articles can be easily produced right here, or near around us. If we could save one-half of what we so annually pay out, it would soon make our farmers easy. If we could save by real agriculture (mixed growth) one-third or one-fourth of what we year after year pay out for truck and plain fruit crops, these same farmers would become rich and live much easier. Why don't they do it? Now it is easy to talk and guess; and a Raleigh paper has published some 100 answers to about the same simple questions. No two agree; and not a single one attempts even a fair analysis of the subject.

I think the Farmers Alliance is doing an excellent work in arousing our people and our public men to a fair discussion of such topics. Will any one of the new or old leaders frankly

tell us why the good people of Mecklenburg don't raise horses and mules, cattle, hogs and sheep, corn, wheat, oats, hay, potatoes and cabbage, turkeys and other poultry, just as they did 50 or 25 years ago? The market is now at their very doors, and better than it ever was? I want no talk about the general decline of agriculture, "Si Plunkard" took that off, and farmers and all laughed heartily. Cotton has not paid the mass of the farmers here for 5 or 10 years past. Why don't they try these other things? I showed that my tenant John Osborne made money on corn, the bad crop year just past ('91); why don't others try it? Some 40 years ago Mecklenburg shipped 30,000 bushels of wheat to a single house in South Carolina? Cotton was then a fair price, and wheat rather down, but yet wheat paid? Now it can scarcely be raised here at all. Explain why and wherefore?

Livingston's Polley.

Livingston Topic.]

Congressman Livingston, of Georgia is one of the foremost Alliance-men in the United States and one of the truest, best Democrats as well. He is the impassioned orator whom Col. Polk brought into North Carolina in the campaign of 1890, at which time he delighted immense audiences at three or four appointments. He is a statesman of whom the Alliance is proud and whom the Democracy delights to honor. He is the type of man who binds together, in one indissoluble bond of affection and common interest, these two grand organizations, the one political and the other non-political. Last week an informal meeting or caucus of Alliance Congressmen was held in Washington. Their number was 25, of whom 18 followed the lead of Mr. Livingston and 8 flocked with Mr. Simpson. Mr. Simpson made a speech in reference to the corruption in "both old parties" and was particularly severe upon the Democratic party. This brought Col. Livingston to his feet immediately.

"The Democratic party is not opposed to us," he cried. "It is willing and anxious to work for the relief of our people, and the gentleman is doing us great harm by talking of a third party and insinuating that the Democratic party is corrupt."

A Catholic priest of Toledo, Ohio, has been arrested upon charge of assault on a little girl.

Will Gold Cure Drunkenness?—Notes on the Keeley Institute at Greensboro.

State Chronicle.]

GREENSBORO, Feb. 2.—There seems to be a lot of mystery and self-mystification regarding the Keeley gold treatment for the cure of drunkenness. This is a repetition and reproduction of vaccination when first discovered. Men doubted it because they did not understand how small-pox virus by being engrafted on a heifer and then the matter taken from the heifer and placed in the arm of a human being should fortify against the disease. Yet its efficacy is assured and the practice of vaccination pursued wherever civilization exists.

Many avow their infidelity because they cannot reason out and explain and reconcile all parts and passages of Holy Writ.

With many this is the condition somewhat of the bi-chloride of gold cure. No one of the seventy-five patients who have been treated for drunkenness at the Greensboro Keeley Institute can explain why, after a days' treatment, he lost all taste and desire for strong drink; yet, without a solitary exception, this is the evidence that has been related to the writer, who adds his own testimony. Both habitual and periodic drinkers of many years' indulgence and in all stages and phases of suffering, from nausea and painful nervousness to the "jim jams," after a day or two of the treatment appear comparatively cheerful in the club room circle, or walk about the streets without an attendant.

The Greensboro Institute was opened on the 30th of October, 1891, and seventy-five patients have been graduated and returned to their homes and business, not only cured of their drinking habit, but with their more less broken down systems built up, and in good condition.

The Chilean court has at last rendered a decision in the case of the assault on the Baltimore in which several citizens of Chili are convicted and imprisoned for assaulting the sailors of the Baltimore.

State Chronicle says: It is suggested in Baptist circles in Baltimore that Rev. A. C. Dixon, a former Baltimorean, now pastor of Hanson Place Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., may be called to succeed the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, of London.

SETTLE UP

Your Note or

ACCOUNT

AS IT IS PAST DUE.

We take this occasion to thank our patrons, one and all, for their patronage in the past, and ask for a continuance of the same. We shall by strict attention to business, courteous and prompt attention, fair and honorable dealing, selling only good goods at a legitimate profit, merit your patronage. January the First is pay day. The settlement of accounts is an important one. All who owe us a note or an account will please call and settle at once. We shall put all accounts and notes in the hands of a collector as we must have a settlement in order to close our books for 1891. If you can't pay us all, we want part, and you will do us a favor to come in at once and see us about it; we have now waited a year and must have money, and our friends who owe us are the ones we look to for it. Don't delay this matter as it is urgent and important. If you don't call on us our collector is apt to call on you, so step up and let us hear from you. Our shelves and counters are filled with good honest goods at the very lowest possible prices. Come in and see us.

T. L. SEIGLE & CO.

Charlotte, N. C.

The Leading Dry Goods House of North Carolina.

THE BIG SALE OF

CLOTHING

AND HATS IS STILL GOING ON.

HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF

MEN'S, YOUTHS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING

AND HATS ARE BEING SOLD EVERY DAY AT HALF PRICE

THE ENTIRE BANKRUPT STOCK OF THE M'DOWELL CLOTHING CO. GOING AT HALF VALUE.

Are you taking advantage of it? Remember you save 50 cents on every dollar's worth buy. It is not our loss but your gain if you "get on to it." FOR SPOT CASH we bought the goods so cheap that we can sell them at half price and make money. If you will need Clothing or Hats in the next twelve months now is the time to buy. Twenty Dollar Suits for \$10; Fifteen Dollar Suits for \$7; Twelve Dollar Suits for \$6. Ten Dollar Suits for \$5; Eight Dollar Suits for \$4; Six Dollar Suits for \$3; Five Dollar Suits for \$2.50.

BOYS' AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING AT HALF PRICE.

HATS, HATS,

Good Wool Hats for Men and Boys at 25 cents each. Hats for 50 cents worth \$1; for 75 cents worth \$1.50; for \$1 worth \$2; for \$1.50 worth \$3; for \$1.75 worth \$3.50. This is not an old stock. The McDowell Clothing Co was in business only a few months. These goods are going fast at half price. Your size is here if you come at once, and more real value than we or any one else ever offered in Charlotte. Remember the number, 21 West Trade Street.

ROGERS AND COMPANY,

CHARLOTTE, N. C.