

THE DANBURY REPORT

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INTERESTING LETTER FROM PROF. HARRIS.

No Work For Laborers In the West Except During Summer, Then They Get Good Pay--A Settler Needs Eight Or Ten Thousand To Get Started Right--Westerners Don't Object to Work.

Garfield, Wash., Sept. 2.
Mr. Editor:

I have received several letters from both young and middle aged men asking my advice as to their coming West. I have mislaid one of these letters from a young man near Hearford. I trust he will pardon me for replying to him through the Reporter. It is hard to advise one intelligently in this matter; and the only thing I ever do is to give the conditions here, and leave each one to act on his own judgment.

Some come and are highly pleased while others come and fail to like at all. Conditions and customs are so different here from what they are in North Carolina; one frequently has to change many of his old habits and begin anew. For example, harvest hands here furnish their own bed (usually a quilt and blanket) and sleep in a bunk house or more frequently in the barn. Now, suppose I advise this young man from Hearford to come and get him a job and at night he is directed to the barn to sleep. What would he probably think of my advice and of me? When a farmer has a regular hand he furnishes good room and bed in his house. But when one is here awhile and sees the thousands of harvesters that are required here pour in from every condition of mankind and

every country of the world, he can then readily see that it would be unwise to bed all these men.

Among my harvest hands this year two were from Iowa, one from New York, one from Brazil and one from London.

There is nothing objectionable about sleeping out doors here. No rats, mosquitoes or snakes to terrify one's dreams and our ranchers place their beds in tents on a pair of springs right on the open ground and sleep there all summer, thus preferring the open air to the house.

It is almost a fad here to go harvesting. Nearly everybody does it.

There is here a young lady from Spokane cooking for a threshing crew and sleeping in a tent with her assistant. Her father is worth a cool hundred thousand and furnishes her anything she wants.

The pastor of the Presbyterian church, the swell church of Garfield, got a vacation this summer and worked in the harvest and slept in the barn on a farm adjoining me. Like myself, he is now hauling wheat, loading and unloading over twenty thousand pounds a day. I could give dozens of such instances. After one is here a while he gets used to these things and don't feel insulted when he is asked to sleep in the barn, milk the cows, help bring the

water, wash dishes, or even help wash the clothes.

Wages are good here in summer but there is little demand for laborers in winter.

No plantbeds to burn, the crop is harvested and hauled to the railroad in summer, and the barn is packed with hay; the wood is stored in stove lengths in the wood house, and by the time winter comes the wagon is put into the tool house for the winter, and the rancher does little besides looking after his horses and cattle and therefore few of them need help in winter.

This year harvest hands (and that means those who shock, run binders, drive teams or go with threshing outfits) are getting two to two fifty and board per day. One can easily put in 50 or 60 days. A majority of these thousands of harvest hands are worthless unless you are right with them. When a man is known to be a good hand and trusty he gets better pay and an easier job. The boys here from North Carolina are all good men and have no trouble to get good places. A neighbor farmer who grows 30 to 40 thousand bushels of grain said to me, "when a man wants a job of me and says he is from Tennessee or North Carolina, I don't ask him any more questions, I know he is O. K."

Generally speaking, there is little work to be had here except farm work. School teachers are generally in demand at 50 to 60 dollars per month for five to nine months a year. Land prices are so high here now that a man needs eight or ten thousand dollars to buy a quarter

section to begin farming on a cash basis. Of course, if he don't fear debt he can start up with far less. One can buy land on any kind of terms here, but prices are all high. It will require 1,000 to 2,000 dollars to buy necessary farm implements and horses to start with. If a man has that much cash he can often rent a farm and get a start that way.

The laborer is not looked down on here and there are no idlers.

Nearly all the women do their own cooking and washing. If you want help along this line you will get the daughter of some of your neighboring ranchers who is worth ten to twenty thousand. It would hardly be healthy to speak to one of your county thousand dollar neighbors in Stokes for one of his daughters to do cooking or washing.

If one comes here and stays two years, he may leave but always comes back. One of my neighbors, Mr. T. M. Barnes, who once lived in Stoneville, and later near Raidsville, has been here twenty years and says he would like to go on a visit to his old home, but he could not think of living there again. By the way I am expecting him over to my place next Sunday to spend the day and eat watermelons, which are just coming in here.

I am glad for a Tarheel to come in our midst, but I must say it looks discouraging when land is 50 to 75 dollars per acre. I am inclined to think however, that this land will readily bring one hundred dollars per acre in ten years from now.

If a young man has a hundred or two dollars and don't fear a lit-

A GREAT SNIPE HUNTING

W. J. Jackson and Shack Belton The Various Luck

the hardship for a year or two there are fine opportunities of homesteading fine lands as good as this in Southwestern Canada. It requires only three years to prove up on a homestead there. The climate there is a little milder than the climate of North Dakota. That is a fine wheat country, and land is easily obtained—either to homestead, rent or buy. Quite a few of our people are going there to start out in life.

For the sober, industrious young man with push and vim, there is opportunity everywhere, but I believe that many young men of the East would do well to come West and grow up with the country. It is worth a year or two of a young man's life to see the improved methods of farming as practiced in the West. One man here does the work of three and often four there.

In my next letter I shall have somewhat to say about improved machinery on the farm.

W. B. HARRIS.

Mr. J. S. D. Pulliam, of King, was in town Thursday. Mr. Pulliam told the Reporter that his section was visited by a terrible rain storm on Wednesday, Sept. 12. The streams were the highest ever known.

Mr. Wade Hix was in town Friday.

John Covington was here Thursday.

rain, farmers. It has been terrible on the mill could not run but very little over half time. While the farmers and sawmill men could not work, the weather on last Thursday night was fine for snipe hunting. W. J. Jackson and Shack Belton got them up several and went out to catch all the snipes around Prestonville. Judge and Shack were to do the driving while the other four held the sacks. No. 1 was placed at the ford of the branch near the watering place. No. 2 was some forty yards below. No. 3 at the old Preston still-place while No. 4 was some 50 yards east of the old still-place; No. 4 being satisfied that the snipes would not move, he soon joined the drivers and all left for home. No. 1 put a rock in his sack and through mistake made his sack too heavy, therefore let all the snipe pass. No. 2 got hold of a sack with no bottom to it, so he made a water-hall. No. 3 being a better snipe hunter than the rest, had everything right so he bagged the whole drove and it took him until three o'clock in the morning to get in home. Being sharper in catching all the snipe, he was sharper still, for he give all the balance of the

(Continued on last page).

Big Winston = Salem Fair

OCTOBER 2, 3, 4, 1906.

Biggest and Best Fair Ever Held in Winston, N. C.

TWO BANDS OF MUSIC =: HOME COMING WEEK =: HORSE SHOW

The Fair will be opened by Gov. R. B. Glenn. Senator Ben Tillman of South Carolina and other distinguished men of the nation have been invited to be present.

Our free attractions this year will be the best ever seen in the county. We have at considerable trouble and expense secured the famous

DAVID CASTELLO CIRCUS

which will give a free daily performance in a ring arranged in full view of the people. This show alone is worth the price of admission into the grounds. We have also contracted for a

BALLOON ASCENSION

each day at four o'clock. These are the leading features but there will be others. The midway will be great. We have already booked a Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Razzle Dazzle, a big Minstrel Show, Electric Theatre, Shooting Gallery, Snake Show, a Kansas Farm in all its glory, Moving Picture Shows Trained Animal Show, and numerous games and many other things that will amuse and interest young and old.

Music, Mirth and Sight Seeing Everywhere. You Cannot Afford to Miss It

DON'T LOSE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN.

To all, we say come, prepare yourself to improve in the labor you propose for the coming year by spending a few days mingling with your fellowmen at the Fair. Parents are cordially invited to bring their children and inspect the various exhibits. Invite your friends to meet you at our Fair. We will furnish you with plenty of comfortable seats where you can rest and be free from the cares and worries of a busy life.

SPECIAL EXCURSION RATES.

Special Reduced Rates on Railroads and all Lines of Travel, consequently visitors from abroad are enabled to attend our Fair at a comparatively small outlay. All that tends to the interest and benefit of our patrons has been carefully looked after. Remember the dates. For further information write

G. E. Webb,

Winston = Salem, N. C.