

# THE DANBURY REPORTER.

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## PROF. HARRIS WRITES AGAIN.

### He Is Farming On A Big Scale—Sowed Forty Acres In Oats And One Hundred And Sixty Acres In Wheat This Year.

Garfield, Wash., Dec. 22.  
Within the memory of the present generation there has come a change in nearly every trade and in nearly every business known to man. In fact, this seems to be an age of change. Progress is stamped in the face of every successful business man and every undertaking. The old stage coach has given place to the lightning express, the teamster has been superseded by the trains of freight cars bearing their thousands of tons of burden both night and day outstripping the winds, the horse and buggy has given place to the auto, the hand loom to the power loom, the old screw press in the barn shed to the modern electric plant in a ten story building, the little bur mill way down on the creek to the fine roller mill in the village, and the old star route is fast giving away before the r. f. d., and the network of telegraphs and telephones all over the country.

The farmer, too, has made many changes for the better. In passing through the country one will see quite a few labor-saving devices in the homes of the best farmers. Their wives no longer sew with their fingers, scrub clothes with their hands on a board, their grain is cut with a binder and the mower and rake come in for their part. I say you will see many of these labor-saving machines in the homes of the best farmers, but while that is true, I fear that a majority of the farmers are yet plowing the hills with a single bull tongue plow, reaping their grain with a scythe and the cradles that the mowing blade and hand rake have not given place to the mower and horse rake, and in general they are not employing many labor-saving devices to be had on the market. To be able to meet all competition one must be able to produce with as little labor as much of a given article as any one else can produce with same labor.

Now, farmer, if you hope to compete with the world and still use the single plow and save your crop by hand, you must possess one or all of the following three things: cheaper labor, better soil or ability to produce a superior article.

Right here I wish to say that I mean to give partly my experience and partly my observation. I don't want to be like my neighbor who raised corn here. He planted an acre or two and claimed 60 bushels to the acre. I think 20 would have been more nearly correct. Next year he got a two-horse rig and when I passed he was sitting up in that rig laying off, planting and covering two rows at a time in a 20 acre field. He wrote a lengthy article in the *Garfield Enterprise* on the culture of corn. Right here I'll say that there is very little corn raised here—just enough for table use. Again I passed and after neglecting his crop for some time and too long, he was attempting to clean it out with a cultivator. Any farmer in Stokes knows that the wild oats of Whitman or the crab grass of Stokes, it once gets a good hold can be led by a generous application of cultivator and hoe.

Early every farmer here some even possess two of them use them much because labor is too high, because he failed to save his crop.

Again I passed and he was trying to plow under the whole thing with a foot burner. He soon abandoned that. Again I passed and saw him with a mower mak-

ing hay of the wild oats and not an ear of corn did he get.

I am aware that we here are not up with the big farmers in the level parts of this and other states. We used doubled bottom gang plowing 4 to 5 acres per day and an 8-foot binder and cut 10 to 15 acres per day. They use a steam outfit and plow 30 acres per day and a combine and harvest and thresh 40 to 60 acres per day. We can't use such machinery on our hills but still we are able to compete with them because we have better soil and can produce more bushels to the acre. Otherwise we would quit wheat raising and turn our attention to something else.

Now, brother Stokes farmer, how are you situated? With higher priced labor now than in the past and a light soil. Are you prepared to compete in the markets of the world? Here, we can produce wheat at a cost of 20 to 30 cents per bushel. Are your methods, price of labor and soil such that you can compete with us there?

In the central west they use a machine with which one boy can cultivate 10 or 12 acres of corn per day. Can you compete with the corn farmer in the markets of the world? But you produce tobacco and are probably up-to-date in tobacco culture. But that is to no use, you can't use it yourself nor sell it to your neighbor and the Trust has an easy time taking it from you without any competition and often at prices below cost of production. What must you do? Why gradually stop raising tobacco, buy the latest improved machinery and produce those things that you and your neighbor can use if no one else wants to buy it of you. If raising those crops that require so much labor, do not pay, grow peas for hay and to improve your land, raise cattle and hogs and a horse or two every year. Grow some corn but more wheat, rye and oats and you can't help but be the most independent man on the globe. You are up against the labor problem and the sooner you realize it the better. The negro, as a farm laborer, has become uncertain. Never again will you be able to get fifty-cent labor when they can come west and get one to three dollars per day.

But you say you have not the improved machinery and are not able to buy it. You can do like I did and if you will pardon me for reference to myself, I will give you my experience. Up to this year I have hired all my plowing and reaping, etc., it being cheaper to hire it done than to keep a team provided you can get it done at all.

This year I determined to do my own work. But long before I was through I found I lacked the money for farm machinery. A binder, rake, mower and seeder cost me four hundred dollars. There was nothing left for me to do but to walk up to the bank and ask for that amount of credit till harvest time. Well, here is what I did with the aid of my little son, Homer, aged 12 after he got out of school the last of May, and two weeks hired help in harvest time. By the use of the machinery, Homer was able to do most of the team work. In the spring we plowed and sowed 40 acres to oats, in the summer we plowed 160 acres for wheat and sowed it in the fall besides cutting 175 acres of grain and saving 30 or 40 tons of hay and cultivating 25 acres of orchard.

It required seven horses to make a team and you may know that we were busy but in counting up I find that what I would have paid to get it done, paid for my machinery.

Of course it is expensive to feed these horses, but I cut a generous quantity of grain hay, which with a few hundred bushels of oats, will carry them through the winter.

Not a grain of corn do they get. Horses don't know how to eat corn here. We can raise it but it requires too much labor and therefore is too expensive. If we had attempted to feed on corn and corn fodder it would have been nearly a year's work to feed seven head of horses.

The best advice I have seen or heard given to Stokes farmers was couched in a speech made by some farmer from Alamance county at the Farmers' Institute in Danbury. I verily believe it would be a good thing of the Reporter to reprint that speech a few times to impress it on the farmers of the county.

Raise more horses and use more horsepower and less labor. Stop working your wives and children in the tobacco field from early spring to fall in the interest of the Tobacco Trust. Get the best machinery to be had and raise everything that you can use and some to sell.

Go in debt for machinery rather than for fertilizer, put your labor in clearing up stumps and rocks instead of worming and suckering tobacco. Get a gang plow and plow the old fields and sow in peas instead of clearing for tobacco. Build your land up in raising food plants instead of impoverishing it with the worthless poisonous tobacco.

I repeat again what I've said before. The man with one mule and a bull tongue plow can not successfully compete with the man with more horse power and good farm machinery. Before I would try it I would go in with my neighbor and buy a good farm implement and let him use it in day time and I'd use it at night. A neighbor of mine had 150 acres of grain to cut in one week with one seven-foot binder. He put in two teams and ran it day and night and when Saturday came it was all in shock. All night long I could hear the binder clatter but that was far ahead of cutting it in daytime with a scythe and cradle.

Finally I would say gradually diversify and stop raising tobacco; get together, attend your meetings and institutes and devise ways and means for your own betterment.

W. B. HARRIS.

### THE RIGHT NAME.

Mr. August Sherpe, the popular overseer of the poor, at Fort Madison, Ia., says: "Dr. King's New Life Pills are highly named; they act more agreeably, do more good and make one feel better than any other laxative." Guaranteed to cure biliousness and constipation. 25c at all druggists.

### TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

**A Boston schoolboy was tall, weak and sickly.**

**His arms were soft and flabby. He didn't have a strong muscle in his entire body.**

**The physician who had attended the family for thirty years prescribed *Scott's Emulsion*.**

**NOW:**

**To feel that boy's arm you would think he was apprenticed to a blacksmith.**

ALL DRUGGISTS, 50c. AND \$1.00.

## DOWN ON DOGS.

### A Man Who Says They are Worthless And Very Costly And Wants To Tax Them.

Mr. T. Gilbert Pearson, of the State Audubon Society, is in receipt of this letter from a Winston-Salem gentleman:

"I take it that the Audubon Society stands for right and justice in all things and for the advancement of the cause of a higher civilization and, incidentally, for the protection of game and song birds. I can think of nothing that would bring about the desired results so soon and so effectually as a reasonably high license tax on dogs and tax bitches heavily, say not less than \$10 a year.

"I pay the heaviest kind of a dog tax and do not own or keep any dog at all. Let me explain. My wife tells me that it is a conservative estimate to say that she has \$2 worth of eggs eaten every year by neighbors' dogs. Last spring a neighbor's dog tore the cloth off my plant bed twice and I was forced to buy poultry netting and fence in my bed at an actual cash outlay of about a dollar. I think the man who owns the dogs ought at least help bear the burden.

"Take the basis of population of North Carolina and calculate one dog for every five (and this is a conservative estimate) and see how much North Carolina is wasting every year to feed dogs.

"Right around me are boys who haven't spent a day in school this year and yet there is not a day (Sunday excepted), that I can't hear their savage yells, the barking of their half-starved dogs and the bang of the shot gun. They kill game to buy shells and buy shells to kill game and their fathers growl and whine about the cost of school books. The abominable dog is the most conductive thing to gross ignorance that I can think of in North Carolina.

"Just think what might be done in this State by sheep farming if it was not for the countless dogs that prowl over the State from the mountains to the sea.

"A neighbor of mine paid \$25 for a ram some years ago and a hungry hound killed him in a little while.

"Pardon me for appealing to your society to use its influence to secure legislation that will tend to decrease the number of dogs in our State and at the same time add several thousand dollars to the school fund.

"Trusting you will give this matter your serious consideration and that the views expressed may meet your approval.

"J. M. JARVIS."

Mr. Charlie Sisk, of Hartman, was a visitor here Monday.

Mr. John Priddy, of Danbury Route 1, was here yesterday.

## WILL LEAVE STOKES.

### Mr. J. W. Southern Writes Farewell Letter To His Stokes Friends.

December 24, 1906.

Mr. Editor: Please allow me space in your paper for my farewell letter to dear old Stokes. I was born in old Stokes December 1, 1844, this is December 24, 1906, which makes me 62 years and 25 days old now. Mr. Editor, as an old Confederate soldier, of Company H 53 North Carolina regiment, I hate to leave my many friends, while I have a few enemies that I don't care to leave, although I wish them God speed. It is not my intention to ever make my home in old Stokes again, but by the help of God I expect to visit my old friends.

Now, Mr. Editor, I have got disgusted living in Stokes under Republicanism where one part of the county is held strictly to the law and the other part allowed to do just as it pleases and nobody to molest them. This is not a free county where one-half are held to the law and the northern part to do as they please.

I have tried to live honorable and treat everybody right and have accomplished it all but a few cases and am leaving with a clear conscience to all men, women and children. It has been said that I left this county once owing everybody, but that was false. Now, if I don't forget, I will leave owing no man a penny and that makes me feel proud as an old soldier and a Democrat, so I will close my remarks as it may worry you and the readers.

Wishing the Reporter a happy Christmas. Don't forget me I expect to meet you at Jamestown in September, 1907.

JAS. W. SOUTHERN.

## SHORTEST OF THE YEAR.

### Days Remain Short For About A Week Before They Begin To Lengthen.

These are the shortest days of the year—so short that one has hardly time to turn around many times before it is night. The first short day was the 21st and the length remains the same, practically for a week, first a lengthening of about a minute a day, then two minutes, and so on, but the elongation takes place at the setting of the sun. Old Sol will continue to rise during the first week at about the same hour, deferring his departure a little each day. No two almanacs agree exactly on the rising and setting of the sun at this period, but they all average up about even. By the first of February, with clear weather, the longer days will be noticeable, daylight lasting until a little after 6 o'clock.

The seven days preceding and the seven days following the shortest daylight of the year were called by the ancients "The Halcyon days." This phase, so familiar as expressive of a period of tranquility and happiness, is derived from a fable that during this period, when the kingfishers or halcyon bird was breeding, the sea was always calm. According to poetic fiction, the bird was represented as hatching her eggs in a floating nest in the midst of waters.

## WISE COUNSEL FROM THE SOUTH.

"I want to give some valuable advice to those who suffer with lame back and kidney trouble," says J. R. Blakenship, of Beck, Tenn. "I have proved to an absolute certainty that Electric Bitters will positively cure this distressing condition. The first bottle gave me great relief and after taking a few more bottles, I was completely cured—so completely that it becomes a pleasure to recommend this great remedy." Sold under guarantee at all druggists. Price 50c.

## POPULAR YOUNG COUPLE MARRY.

### Mr. James Merritt Weds Miss Sadie Boles—A Spelling Match.

Germanton, Dec. 28.—The beautiful home wedding of Miss Sadie Boles and Mr. James Merritt was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Boles, on Tuesday, Dec. 25th, Rev. Keever, of Rural Hall, performing the ceremony.

The bride was becomingly dressed in cream cashmere. The attendants were Miss Bessie Merritt with Mr. Mania Tuttle, Miss Eva Merritt with A. Ben Boles, Miss Fannie Boles with Mr. Tom Boles, Miss Etta Boles with Mr. Thomas Wall.

A large number of relatives and friends were present. Immediately after the ceremony the bridal party was ushered into the dining room where an inviting dinner was awaiting them. The bride received quite a number of useful and handsome presents.

The following day a reception was tendered the young couple by the groom's father, Mr. Alexander Merritt. Quite a large crowd was present, and a most excellent dinner served.

The school at Corinth, taught by Miss Maggie Petree, challenged the Friendship school, taught by Mr. Oscar Petree, to an old-fashioned spelling on Friday night before Christmas. The challenge was accepted and quite a large crowd was present.

Both sides were very much in earnest, and the spelling almost resulted in a tie, coming out 49 crosses for Friendship and 51 for Corinth. They will spell again at Friendship before the schools close.

R. J. P.

## Salaries For County Officers.

A late press dispatch announces that the officers of Guilford county are now paid on a salary basis, the law having gone into effect December 1st, and calls attention to the resultant savings. Hitherto, as in many other counties, Guilford's officers have been receiving the official fees and percentages, which in many cases amounted to sums far in excess of ample salaries for the work done. Now the Sheriff is allowed a salary of \$2,500; the deputies are allowed their fees, and the jailor is paid a salary. The Clerk of the court and the Register of Deeds receive \$2,250 each, with an extra allowance of \$1,000 each for the clerk hire. Even with these liberal salaries, it is estimated that Guilford will save \$10,000 a year, which goes to the road fund.

## Railroad Facilities In North Carolina.

It is not generally known but it is true nevertheless that the Southern Railway has more miles of track in North Carolina than in any other State. When it is considered that there are three other large systems operating in the state, to say nothing of several smaller roads now in operation being built, it will be readily apparent that this state is making wonderful strides industrially. A state that is not going forward rapidly does not feel the need of an extension of existing railroad lines or the building of new ones. The railroad development in North Carolina is one of the best things in connection with this state's great progress along industrial lines.

## HOW TO CURE CHILBLAINS.

"So enjoy freedom from chilblains," writes John Kemp, East Otisfield, Me. "I apply Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Have also used it for salt rheum with excellent results." Guaranteed to cure fever sores, indolent ulcers, piles, burns, wounds, frost bites and skin diseases. 25c at all druggists.