

THE HEADLIGHT.

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PREPARING FOR A BIG CROP.

According to statements in the county papers in many parts of the State the farmers are buying more liberally of mules and fertilizers this year than in any previous year in a long time. It is a safe assumption that farmers in other cotton States are doing just what the farmers in this State are, in respect to mules and fertilizers.

Evidently it is the purpose of each farmer to grow as much cotton this year as he possibly can. That is the meaning of the increase in the purchases of mules and fertilizers. But are not the farmers making a mistake? There is no doubt a good profit in cotton at 10 cents, or even 9 cents a pound, but what guarantee is there that cotton will be as high next year as it is this? There is absolutely none.

The main reason cotton is 9 1/2 to 10 cents a pound this year is that the crop for the season of 1899-1900, and that for 1900-1901 were comparatively small. Had there been a big crop this season it is doubtful if the price would have been over 7 cents a pound. If the last two crops had been large ones it is a safe statement that the price would not have been more than 6 cents a pound, if so much. There is not much use, however, to give farmers advice in this matter. It is impossible for them to act together. Each one acting as he thinks his best interests require, it is almost certain that the average this year will be phenomenally large. Should the season be a favorable one the crop will be so large that the price will drop so low that there will be no profit in it.

EXTRAVAGANT EXPENDITURES.

The Fifty-sixth Congress will make a stunning record for profligacy in expenditure. At its first session it appropriated \$710,050,892. The estimated appropriations for the present session aggregate \$743,374,894, not including deficiencies of \$99,000,000 which already exist and deficiencies of \$10,000,000, which are likely to occur. The total expenditures will amount, on this basis, to \$1,493,525,686. In addition, the Ship Subsidy bill and the Nicaragua Canal bill, the former providing for a yearly expenditure of \$9,000,000 and the latter \$20,000,000 may be passed, while the promoters of the Pacific cable project will not be satisfied with less than \$20,000,000. In that event the grand total for the Fifty-sixth Congress would be \$1,542,525,686.

ONE OF THE MOST UNIQUE VICES THAT EVER CAME UP IN GEORGIA.

One of the most unique vices that ever came up in Georgia has been on trial before the ordinary of White County. It was the will of Henry Colburn, who died some months ago at the age of 83. He was a very eccentric man, with many peculiarities. All of his children left him years ago and would not even go about him in his old age and sickness. He cared nothing for them and they cared nothing for him. He lived by himself, doing his own cooking, and had a peculiar desire to eat all kinds of meat. He had in his lifetime eaten rats, frogs, muskrats, house cats, owls, buzzards, skunks, a piece of rattlesnake and every kind of thing imaginable. He would request people who found strange "warmints" or fowls to bring them to him and he would eat them.

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ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT.

Notwithstanding all the talk about our wonderful development of cotton manufacturing, the fact proves that the United States, as yet, is only piddling at the business, and that our work holds no possible proportion to that being done abroad. Statistics recently compiled from Governmental sources show that while our percentage of growth for the past 10 years has been greater than that of any other nation, Europe, although buying most of its cotton from the United States, exported in 1900 more than \$100,000,000 worth of cotton manufactures, while our own manufacturers were exporting about \$21,000,000 worth. This suggests great future possibilities for a people for whom nature has done so much in her supply of the raw cotton and of all the requirements for its manufacture.

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AN OFFICIAL CONVICTED OF ROBBERY.

Neeley Harris, mayor of Hill Top, W. Va., a deputy sheriff of Fayette county, and a prominent politician, will be sent to the penitentiary for at least five years, that being the minimum sentence for robbery, of which he has just been convicted. The charge was made by Solomon and Jacob Hrig, Jewish peddlers, and the trial of the case brought out a remarkable state of affairs.

THE PEDDLERS SWORE THEY WERE ARRESTED AT HILL TOP LAST SUMMER FOR PEDDLING WITHOUT A LICENSE, AND WERE TRIED IN A SALOON. EACH WAS FINED \$5 AND COSTS, AND UPON THEIR REFUSAL TO PAY, THE MAYOR AND TOWN MARSHAL THREATENED THEM. THERE BEING NO JAIL TO CONFINED THEM IN, THEY WERE TAKEN OUT OF TOWN, TIED HANDS AND FEET TO STAKES, AND THEIR FACES PLASTERED WITH MOLASSES. IN THIS CONDITION, THE SUN'S RAYS BEATING DOWN INTO THEIR FACES, AND THE MOLASSES ATTRACTING FLIES, ANTS, ETC., THEY WERE KEPT TILL THE TORTURE COMPELLED THEM TO AGREE TO PAY. LEARNING THIS WINTER THAT THE FINES SO EXTORTED HAD NOT BEEN TURNED IN TO THE COUNTY, THE PEDDLERS WENT BEFORE THE GRAND JURY AND INDICTED HARRIS. HE WAS FOUND GUILTY OF ROBBERY, AND WILL BE SENTENCED THIS WEEK.

A "FROG" WOMAN.

The "frog woman," a woman 28 years of age, whose only locomotion is that of leaping like a frog, is the latest marvel found in Oxford, Ga. She leaps with the perfect imitation of a frog, and catches on her knees and elbows, and this has always been her mode of travel. She has never learned or tried to learn to walk. Mary Bolan is the name of this curious woman, and she lives in a cottage with her sister, where they were recently brought from the poorhouse. The Ladies Home Missionary Society has undertaken to care for the two. The woman has been an idiot from her infancy, and is extremely nervous. Her hands from the elbows are in a continual rotary motion when she is not hopping, and her head moves from side to side incessantly. Her physique seems to be well proportioned, and she eats heartily and sleeps sound, weighs about 110 pounds, and is very good looking. At times she is quite dangerous when in fits of anger. She is very fond of good-looking people, and shows such all the attention possible when they are around, but when an ugly person appears she will hop away, seemingly in disgust.

WAS A QUEER OLD CHARACTER.

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