

THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

DANIEL T. EDWARDS, Editor
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THE HAY CROP.

One of the most valuable crops that Uncle Sam produces is one of the easiest to raise and harvest. It is the humble hay crop. It is not usually rated, as a crop, so highly as is cotton or tobacco. But in 1902 it was of more value than either.

The following table gives the comparative value of the great staple crops together with the value of exports and imports; and the figures deserve a careful perusal, because they are significant.

Value of all grasses.	\$1,000,000,000
Value of hay only, 1902.	\$42,000,000
Value of corn, 1902.	1,017,017,349
Value of wheat, 1902.	422,224,170
Value of cotton, 1902.	334,847,868
Value of oats, 1902.	305,764,852
Value of all minerals, 1901.	1,098,926,821
Value of exports, 1901 (?)	832,305,156
Value of exports, 1901 (?)	804,299,702
Value of exports, 1902 (?)	1,322,167,141
Value of exports, 7 months 1903 (?)	119,978,449

*Breadstuffs, provisions, cotton and mineral oils only, manufacturers and mineral products not included.

It will be seen from the above that corn and minerals alone exceeded in value the grass crop produced in 1902.

The government report for August gives some figures that show a very flattering prospect for the hay crop of 1903. The report says:

Preliminary returns indicate an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the hay acreage; condition, 92.2, in 1902; 84.1 in 1901, and a nine-year average of 84.7; full crop of clover indicated well up to high medium grade.

This wonderfully abundant hay crop will more than compensate for any deficiency of value in corn and wheat—so that it may be said with assurance that 1903 has been a year of unexampled prosperity to the farmers of the country.

The United States might better afford to sacrifice its entire mineral and metal output, or its wheat and cotton crops, or its corn crop, than to lose its harvest of hay and the forage of its grazing lands. Coal and iron cannot make vitality, but the grasses are turned into flesh and blood, and that is the true wealth of any country.

The great wonder is that more communities do not devote more attention to hay raising. In the eastern part of Carolina nature is prolific in respect to the hay crop. Yet we find carload after carload of hay from the west coming in and taking out a part of the spare cash realized from an uncertain cotton or tobacco crop.

You do not hear much of farmers who live up among the hills spending so very much of their savings on hay and other necessary products of the soil. They usually make their soil, although it be poor, produce their necessities. Then if there is a "money crop" and it is successful, the money is net gain.

AN INCIDENT WITH A MORAL.

Not long ago the whole State was shocked by the story of a foul murder committed over in Jones county. Some one had flendishly put to death one of the most estimable citizens in the county, and the murdered man was no other than Mr. F. G. Simmons, father of our senator from this State.

The friends and neighbors of Mr. Simmons keenly felt their loss, and were enraged at the "deep damnation of his taking off." It would not have required much to fan the outraged sense of justice into a flame, and drive the neighbors to wreak summary vengeance upon the negro who was held to be accountable for the crime.

At this point the true nobility of character possessed by Senator Simmons asserted itself. He turned his face sternly against any infraction of the legal and orderly course that justice is wont to pursue, and besought his neighbors to withhold their hand.

The incident has been noted extensively both within and without the State. The following is from the Louisville Herald. It is mainly and to the point:

Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, is a southern gentleman who refuses to depart from the old-time democratic regard for manhood and fair play, respect for law and reverence for authority. His father was recently murdered by "parties unknown." Suspicion fell heavily upon a negro, who was arrested. There was danger of the prisoner's being lynched until Senator Simmons himself appealed to his neighbors to do no violence, but let the man have a fair trial. Such action on the part of a leading southern man, under the most painful circumstances, deserves the warmest commendation. Lawless outrages are, the senator from North Carolina knows, the most deadly foes of security for the white man, and the white woman and the white home of the south. Lynching makes for anarchy and under anarchical conditions the ignorant black becomes an infuriated beast. It is only by rigid, uniform enforcement of the law that he can be made useful and obedient. Abolish law and he becomes a savage.

THE FREE PRESS had the pleasure of welcoming Hon. John A. Oates, editor of the North Carolina Baptist, while he was in Kinston on his recent temperance tour.

Editor Oates spoke in Newbern and on his return trip spoke in Kinston. His address here was highly appreciated, and undoubtedly will have great weight in the dispensary campaign in Kinston.

OUR NAVY AND THE FADDISTS

By Rear Admiral GEORGE W. MELVILLE



WHEN we consider the great strides made in all the navies of the world in the last twenty-five years it seems almost an impossibility to predict what will occur in the materiel of the navy in the coming twenty-five years. Yet WE CANNOT EXPECT GREATER STRIDES than have been made in the last quarter of a century, for the materiel of all navies from the beginning of time has been of SLOW, THOUGH CONSTANT, GROWTH. No great or sweeping change has been made in any navy in any one year.

IT IS THE STRONGHOLD OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT TODAY THAT NO PARTICULAR FADDIST CAN RUIN THE NAVY BY THE INTRODUCTION OF ANY INDIVIDUAL FAD.

The ship of the hour is a "compromise," as it was in the beginning and ever will be where wise counsel shall prevail—a compromise with respect to the various elements involved, such as the "tonnage," "speed," "coal endurance," "armor" and "ordnance," as well as habitability of officers and men. This last, of course, means not only actual living quarters, but room for food, clothing and for many of the modern necessities or accessories of our present civilization—call them "luxuries" if you will. BUT MEN WILL NOT LIVE EITHER AFLOAT OR ASHORE IN THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY DID FIFTY—NAY, TWENTY-FIVE—YEARS AGO, AND WE MUST NOT EXPECT IT.

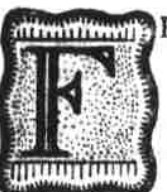
For these reasons our ships have grown in size to leviathans since we find that we cannot get the fight out of 13,000 tons that we can out of 16,000 or 18,000 tons, and this last figure seems to be the limit for readiness in handling, with a fair proportion of length, breadth and depth or draft of water, which is limited to the harbor bars of the nation building and handling the various sized ships.

Then, again, the resources of the nation are a great factor in the game of naval war. IT IS ONLY THE RICH NATIONS OF THE EARTH THAT CAN INDULGE IN THIS GIGANTIC GAME. No wonder that poor nations still build small ships or try to make the semblance of a naval defense with them or with torpedo boats, though all classes of ships have their SPECIAL SERVICE in all navies.

But man—the combative animal that he has been from the beginning of time, when he fought his battles or killed his game with a bludgeon—will today do what he can with the weapons which he has at hand, whether such be a battle ship or the grotesque attempt at defense of the "submarine" or of the flying machine, equally inefficient.

FORMS OF LITERARY EXPRESSION

By Dr. MAURICE FRANCIS EGAN, Literary Critic



FRENCH literary art dominates the form of expression which, for want of a better name, we call the novel. The march of events and the complexity of modern life have become so sublime and amazing that Melchior de Vogue expresses a truth we all know when he says of the progress of Germany, "IT WOULD REQUIRE A SHAKESPEARE, DOUBLED BY A MONTESQUIEU, TO DESCRIBE THE LIFE OF THIS COUNTRY DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS."

Similarly the life of all civilized countries, as depicted in history—which, when not a mere collection of annals, is as personal as fiction—requires that the author should be SOMETHING MORE THAN A LYRICAL ROMANCER. There must be in him a stronger element than the mere desire to chant or to recite great events. As depicted in the novel, which is not only the history of the mind, but the essentials from which the historian must in the future draw much of his material, LIFE IS NO LONGER A MERE SPECTACLE, with red fire flaming here and there and the torchbearing Hymen at the end. Whether it is well that a form of expression, which was gay at times, more often, at least cheerful and always exciting, should have become a vehicle for the consideration of all sorts of problems, is not the question at present.

CIVIC ART AS AN ECONOMIC PRINCIPLE

By WILLIAM ORDWAY PARTRIDGE, Sculptor



IT would seem that the only way to appeal to the purely rich and to the civic authorities is to prove conclusively that the cultivation of beauty in public buildings and statues is AN ECONOMIC PRINCIPLE and that European states and municipalities regard it as an essential matter of political economy to beautify their cities.

When the American gets this thought firmly fastened in his mind he will surely use our iron and our granite to much better advantage than at present.

There is certainly nothing "wonderful" in a building like the Flatiron, in New York. The mere clamping of one girder of steel to another and facing the whole structure with granite is telling an artistic lie in stone. But, on the other hand, a wonderful thing is wrought—aye, a miracle for civilization—whenever an artist, architect or sculptor is allowed to place in a public square a monument, building or statue which is a true product of the genius of this American people, and it behooves us to remember an adage as old as Athens—that THE BEAUTIFUL HAS ITS ORIGIN IN THE USEFUL.

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H. W. SIMPSON Architect

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Notices left at the office of J. W. Grainger will receive prompt attention.

REGISTRATION NOTICE!

Having been appointed Registrar for the Town of Kinston for the election to be held October 27th, 1903, notice is given that the books of registration will be open at the store of T. W. Mewborn & Co., corner Queen and Blount streets, on October 12th, 1903, and thereafter for ten days, for the purpose of registering the qualified voters of the Town of Kinston, N. C., who are not now registered. This October 2nd, 1903. O. T. BONEY, Registrar.

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- J. E. HOOD Kinston
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SEE NERO, EARTH'S ONLY RIDING LION.
SEE THE LITTER OF LION CUBS, Born August 12th.
See the Grand Free Parade at 10 a. m. A Marvel of Splendor—A Revolution of Moving Wealth.
Exhibition place: Opposite A. C. L. Depot. Two performances, 2 and 8 p. m. Doors open at 1 and 7 p. m. Cheap excursions on all Railroads.
This Big Show will exhibit in Greenville October 8 and Goldsboro October 10.