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We invite correspondence, news items, suggestions and criticisms on the subjects of agriculture, poultry raising, stock breeding, dairying, horticulture and gardening; woman's work, literature, or any subject of interest to our readers, young people, or the family generally.

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

To-day is, for all that we know, the opportunity and occasion of our lives. On what we do or say to-day may depend the success and completeness of our life struggle.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

State Entomologist Butz, of Pennsylvania, adds his not very flattering testimony to that of many other authorities in the moth catcher. Read what he says on page 1.

The program of the East Tennessee Farmers' Convention, as outlined on page 1, is very attractive, and should draw an unusually large crowd to the next annual meeting a month hence.

The Gastonia Gazette now appears semi-weekly instead of weekly, as heretofore. Few North Carolina quill drivers give evidence of more talent in newspaper making than does Editor Marshall. We wish him success.

It is a little late to say so, but it is worth recording as we go along that the News and Observer and Charlotte News recently issued Charleston Exposition editions that reflected great credit on those that brought them out.

The authorities have agreed, we believe, that this is the year in which we may expect the seven-year locusts. State Entomologist Sherman has prepared an article on the subject which we purpose publishing soon.

Frank R. Stockton, one of the best-known American novelists, died in Washington City a few days ago. He had written many books, the best known perhaps being "The Lady or the Tiger." The world is happier for his having lived in it.

A bulletin issued by the Census Bureau last week showed that North Carolina leads all the rest of the States in sweet potato production. For the year covered by the census statistics our acreage was 68,730, producing 5,781,587 bushels, worth \$2,119,956.

The editor of the Chatham Record says that he "is one of the very few editors who has never published an editorial that was not written by himself." That is one of our rules, to publish not a line as editorial matter not written by the person whose name appears at the masthead as editor. We agree with the editor of

Charity and Children that the "difference between stealing an editorial and stealing a pair of shoes is smaller than some people think it is."

We are interested in the discovery made by a correspondent of the Presbyterian Standard that the last words of Cecil Rhodes, "So little done, so much to do," form a quotation from Tennyson's "In Memoriam"—which reminds us again that we have not yet formed an estimate of Rhodes' that is satisfactory even to us.

A very timely article is that on the strawberry weevil which Entomologist Sherman furnishes us this week. This pest is doing considerable damage in some sections, as the following Wilmington dispatch in Saturday's Charlotte Observer indicates: "The strawberry crop promises to be large though growers in the Burgaw and South Washington sections report the appearance of the strawberry weevil, a small insect which attacks the bloom of the plant and makes maturity impossible."

A POSTAL CURRENCY NEEDED.

We direct attention to the article on "A Postal Currency" which appears on another page of this number. The proposed arrangement would be of very great advantage to our rural population, the vast majority of whom find difficulty in getting bank checks or money orders. The "post-check" would encourage trade, prove a great convenience to millions of citizens, and insure a cleaner currency. It seems to have all the advantages of the present paper money with several very valuable features added.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF "THE OLD SOUTH"?

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER offers a copy of Rev. James Battle Avrett's "The Old Plantation," a description of ante-bellum life in North Carolina (bound in cloth, 202 pages) as a prize for the most interesting letter regarding the South of other days—incidents, reminiscences, sketches, etc., of life in the South in slavery days, or in the Civil War, or in the days of Reconstruction and the Ku Klux. Any writer can discuss any one or all three periods. The prize will not be awarded until at least eight writers enter the contest. Here is an opportunity for our older readers to describe to a younger generation the periods of Southern history that are to have no parallel in the future and must, except for the descriptions of those that lived through them, be forgotten or misunderstood.

We hope that a large number of our readers, both men and women, will write us their recollections of the Old South.

THE REGIMENTAL HISTORIES.

Says the Charlotte Observer: "The fourth and last volume of the North Carolina Regimental Histories has been issued. It contains, besides regimental histories, histories of battalions and brigades, the junior reserves, home guard and military prisons and is, perhaps, the richest and most interesting of all the volumes. These four volumes constitute an invaluable record, and while all the writers of sketches have done well we are moved to say again that Judge Clark, the editor, has done best of all."

This tribute to the book and to the excellent work of Judge Clark, is deserved. We have recently had the privilege of examining these "Regimental Histories" and the Observer's comment reminds us that the press of the State should join in the effort to secure the largest possible circulation of them. It will always be a matter for congratulation that the story of each of the North Carolina regiments has been thus told by a competent eye witness and put in lasting and convenient form.

We understand, however, that the fourth is not the last volume of this series, but that there are to be five volumes in all. Copies may be ordered from Mr. M. O. Sherrill, State Librarian, at the rate of \$1 per volume. Postage on each volume, 34 cents additional, or express charges, must be paid by purchaser.

RAISING CUBAN AND SUMATRAN TOBACCO IN NORTH CAROLINA.

We have already published several articles regarding the growing of the high-priced tobacco under cloth, the Connecticut experiments, the probability of introducing the industry in North Carolina, etc. On page 1 of this number the reader will find a letter from State Chemist Kilgore on this subject. In a later letter to the editor of the Free Press Dr. Kilgore sums up the whole matter in this paragraph:

"In Connecticut they have been quite successful in growing Sumatran tobacco and in South Georgia and Florida they grow both the Sumatran and Cuban tobaccos with success. In all of these places, however, they use a covering of either cloth or slats. This is done to modify the climatic conditions, as I understand it. We shall have to investigate all these points in an experimental way and we believe that our experiments of this year will indicate to us as to whether or not we can hope for success. We have advised all of the farmers who have put out any of these tobaccos to do so on a very small scale, so that there would be no heavy loss to them in case of total failure. We hope to get the benefit of their experience to combine with our own in suggesting methods and details for work another season in case further experiments are desirable. We shall grow only a small quantity of tobacco under cover, the main part of our crop being grown under the usual out-door conditions. We shall be able, by these means, to compare results by the two methods."

The tests, if successful, will bring a new and very important industry into North Carolina, greatly helping many of our farming sections. But we fear that the Free Press became a little too enthusiastic, and we wish to emphasize Dr. Kilgore's statement that while the matter is attended by so much uncertainty, experiments should be made on a small scale only.

It is said that Mr. Crumpacker's resolution for the investigation of suffrage regulations in the South, is sleeping the sleep that knows no waking. The powers that have decided that it is best to leave the South to work out its own salvation. The Biblical Recorder makes the point that a Crumpacker investigation "would be welcomed by the professional politicians because it would revive the decaying partisan spirit in the South."

THE ATHENS EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The fifth annual session of the Conference for Education in the South was held at Athens, Georgia, last week. Many of the best and brainiest men of the North and the South met together to discuss our educational problems and to plan for improving our schools.

The recent organization in New York City of the General Education Board adds significance to this Conference. This Board is composed of some of the ablest business men of the North and some of the best-known educators of the South. Its purpose is to aid Southern public schools in the way that this work began at Greensboro a month ago—the Board will duplicate gifts of North Carolinians to North Carolina schools whose people in turn show their interest by voting a local tax on themselves. John D. Rockefeller has already given \$1,000,000 for this work, and it is certain that other wealthy men stand ready to contribute largely, if the South shows itself alive to its opportunities. At the Conference last week, Chairman Baldwin, of the General Education Board, set forth the objects of both organizations as follows:

- 1—To promote education in the whole country, irrespective of race, sex or color.
2—To develop public schools, and especially rural schools.
3—To encourage self-help and the urging of local taxation for schools.
4—The training of school teachers, especially in the industrial departments.
5—To co-operate with institutions already established and to aid in their maintenance and improvement.
6—To co-operate with other institutions of learning.
7—To collect educational statistics.
8—To furnish information regarding education and to be the clearing house of educational statistics.
9—To furnish the press with information looking to the advancement of educational interests.
10—To promote every form of deserving educational work.

THE CENTENNIAL OF SALEM FEMALE ACADEMY.

Salem Female Academy was opened in 1802, the first girls' boarding school in the South, the third in the United States. Having lived through a century of good work, this excellent institution will at its commencement, May 23rd to 29th, formally celebrate the centennial of its founding. It is an event in which the whole State should be interested, and we congratulate the faculty and friends of the school on the splendid record behind it and its bright prospects as it enters its second century of work.

Speaking of this Academy (how that modest name contrasts with the glowing titles worn by many inferior schools!) Dr. Truman J. Baokus said at the Conference for Education in the South last year:

"Hereafter I can boast no more of Massachusetts as the pioneer State in the education of women, for I have been in the Moravian seminary at Winston-Salem, within these massive walls that were erected for the education of young women before Boston or Northampton were willing to give girls a place in their common schools."

FARMERS SHOULD ATTEND THE PRIMARIES.

Says the Roanoke-Chowan Times: "Farmers are paying but little attention to politics now, devoting their whole time and attention to the farm. The professional politicians who take this seeming indifference to mean that the farmer cannot be aroused in time to vote will find they are mistaken. Good men to fill public offices are demanded."

The farmer should be aroused to vote, but he should also be aroused a good deal earlier. The most effective work for good government can be done in connection with the nominating conventions, in forcing the parties to put up good men as candidates. It is unfortunate that so many honest and intelligent citizens who would not think of failing to vote, feel that they have no time to attend a primary and work in behalf of the cleanest and most efficient men available as candidates. But this work in the conventions is not a whit less important, a duty in no degree less worthy of attention, than is the casting of the ballot on election day. In the Iowa campaign some months ago, Wallace's Farmer, of Des Moines, published a sensible editorial on this subject, which we clipped and filed away. Here it is and we commend its argument to our North Carolina voters at this time:

"While Wallace's Farmer is not the organ of any party or any faction of any party, it is deeply interested in good government. Good government in the United States means government of the people, by the people, for the people. In our day good government of the people is possible only when the people take an active hand in it. The only way they can take an active hand in it is to begin at the commencement which is the primary where men are nominated for office. If farmers, because the primaries are held in corn planting or corn plowing or hay making or harvest, stay at home and don't take any part in the nominations of candidates, they should not complain if they are whipped into voting for candidates which are the other fellow's nominee. They must either then stand the whipping and vote for the other fellows' choice or bolt their ticket and vote for a set of principles they don't believe in, or stay at home and cease to be a part of the self-government which is the boast of our State and Nation."

"We hope, therefore, that every reader of Wallace's Farmer whether he be a Republican, Democrat, Populist, Prohibitionist, or what not, will take a day off and attend the primary of his party and there do his part in securing good government, or if not good government then government which he thinks is good, which is for him the same thing."

"It is a common trick of politicians who have other ends to serve to call the primary when comparatively few farmers can attend, in their busiest season. Until they take a more active part than they have been doing the farmers will have to submit to this and submit with the best grace possible. After all it don't take very long for a farmer to go to the primary and vote, or if he spends a half day in working for his candidate he will never miss it when he comes to die. He probably needs a half day off anyway; therefore take it."

FARMING PROGRESS IN THE EAST.

There is no surer sign of agricultural progress than the buying of improved stock and up to date farm machinery. What a great improvement in the financial condition of North Carolina farmers would soon occur, if of every county it could be truthfully said as D. L. says of Craven this week: "Corn shredders, cream separators, good stock and cow peas all becoming popular."

But Craven is not the only eastern county that is taking long strides forward. The Rich Square Times of last week says that farming in the entire Roanoke-Chowan section is "gradually undergoing a great change, and for the better." And Editor Conner sets forth the best possible proof of his assertion in the statements that follow:

"Instead of cotton fields and corn patches of a few years ago we find a great variety of crops, and the latest improved machinery. Manure spreaders, grain drills, mowing and reaping machines and such machinery a few years ago could not be found on the farms in this section; now they are largely used and the sale for them is rapidly increasing. Sale of Western meat in this section has decreased fully one hundred per cent. in ten years while the shipment of beef cattle from here has assumed large proportions, whereas a few years ago raising of cattle for market was not attempted."

The Thinkers.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND GENERAL HAMPTON.

Public attention was directed last week to South Carolina by two events of national significance and interest: the visit of President Roosevelt to Charleston, and the death of General Wade Hampton. It is a generation since the last gun was fired in the Wilderness, and the terrible struggle of ideas and arms ended by the surrender of General Lee after a skillful and heroic defence which has given him a place among the notable soldiers of history. The devastation incident upon that war, was so widespread, the material ruin of the South, the destruction of the old social ideas so complete and personal sorrow so universal, that it may be said without exaggeration that no war in history left more wreckage or scars behind it.

The completeness of that reconciliation received a dramatic illustration when the President of the United States, standing in the city of Charleston, struck without dissonance, but with a harmony unsuspected in the older times, the note of perfect respect and admiration for the heroism of the South and of perfect acceptance and loyalty to the national idea. "I claim," said the President, "your State is mine by an inheritance no less than by the stronger and nobler right which makes each foot of American soil the property of all Americans."

While the President was speaking, a representative South Carolinian of the finest type was dying at his home in Columbia. General Wade Hampton was a man of the old-time fibre, the old-time education, and the old-time high-mindedness; a survivor of the days when South Carolina was ruled by an oligarchy, it is true, but by an oligarchy made up of men of high ideals, of generous education, and of devotion to public interests. He fought with conspicuous gallantry through the war, was wounded again and again, and came out of it to find, as so many Southerners found, his fortune wasted and his home obliterated. Like General Lee, he accepted at once the new duties of the new times. When South Carolina was in its worst estate, at the feet of carpetbaggers and ignorant negro politicians, General Hampton showed a statesman's grasp of the situation and a statesman's practical sense in dealing with it. In a critical hour he restrained popular passion, organized public sentiment and opened the way for a peaceful solution of problems which seemed to threaten a local civil war. He received many public honors, but they were all inadequate to express the personal affection which he evoked from all who knew him, and which made his funeral at Columbia on Sunday a beautiful tribute to his character as a man, as well as his services as a statesman and a soldier. President Roosevelt and General Hampton illustrate the great qualities which gave the Civil War its dignity, whether waged by the blue or the gray. The President is in

temperament a born soldier, courageous, outspoken, attracted by bold adventures; but frank, hearty, sympathetic, and generous.

General Hampton was a representative of those qualities which have made the South courageous in great crises, and pre-eminently lovable. He would have adorned any cause which he espoused, by his chivalrous devotion, his daring, and his power of self-effacement. When the struggle was over, in probably the darkest hour of his life, the purity of his motives was most conspicuous. He had in a pre-eminent degree the grace of acceptance as he had also the courage of his convictions.

In President Roosevelt and General Hampton are to be found those two elements, the recognition of which has brought the North and the South together and turned a great war full of bitter memories into a common tradition of heroic, perfect sincerity of conviction and perfect courage. These two qualities, shared alike by the blue and the gray, the Federal and the Confederate, have taken the sting out of the Civil War and have made it a common heritage of noble examples.—The Outlook.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR SUFFRAGE.

To Vote in the Coming Election One Must Possess the Qualifications set Forth in This Article.

Every elector in this State who will be permitted to vote at the next general election, to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1902, being the 4th day of the month, must, under the new State constitution and laws, possess the following qualifications:

He must be a native born citizen; or being of foreign birth, must have been duly naturalized.

He must be twenty-one years old.

He must have lived in this State two years next preceding the election.

He must have lived in the county six months next preceding the election.

He must have lived in the voting precinct four months next preceding the election.

But if he has moved from one precinct to another, in the same county, he has a right to vote in the precinct whence he moved at any election held within four months.

He must not stand convicted of any crime punishable by confinement in the State penitentiary under the laws of this State.

But if he has been so convicted he may be restored by the proper court.

If he was twenty-one years old on the first day of June, 1901, then he must have paid, on or before the first day of May, 1901, his poll-tax for the year 1901.

His tax receipt must show the payment of his poll-tax, and if he should lose his receipt he will be furnished a duplicate thereof by the sheriff or tax collector. But in the absence of any receipt he may vote upon swearing to the payment of his poll-tax.

If he was fifty years old on the first day of June, 1901, he is exempt from the payment of poll-tax.

If he was not twenty-one years old on the first day of June, 1901, and has attained to that age since, he is exempt from the payment of poll-tax this year.

The board of county commissioners may release him from the payment of poll tax on account of poverty or infirmity, in which case they will give him a certificate of release which will entitle him to vote without a poll-tax receipt.

He must be able to read and write any section of the State Constitution in the English language.

But if he voted in any State of this Union prior to the first of January, 1867, or is the son or grandson of a person who voted prior to that time he is exempt from the requirement of being able to read and write.

Colored citizens, with few exceptions, did not vote prior to 1867, therefore they must be able to read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language.

Every elector must be duly registered in the precinct in which he votes, and the registration books in each precinct will be open for that purpose for twenty days preceding the second Saturday before the election for that purpose.

If any person comes of age after the close of the registration books but on or before election day, he will be permitted to register and vote on the day of election.—Asheville Register.