

greater are its chances of being pure and uniform. If a new variety be chosen as nearest one's ideal it is best to ascertain that this is a selection from a still older and meritorious variety. It is dangerous to place confidence in a mere upstart among cottons. Cotton varieties do not spring up by chance and the ancestry is perhaps as important in the case of a cotton plant as in the case of a race horse. Pedigree in cotton is worth while. In the next article will be mentioned some methods of more rapidly improving cotton.

**HOW TO MAKE MONEY WITH COTTON.**

**Raise Not Less, but More, Says Mr. Cutchin—Some New Ideas.**

I AM very much interested in what the farmers mean to do about eight-cent cotton. I have read a great deal about proposed remedies and I have as yet seen nothing satisfactory. All of the speakers and writers are urging less acreage planted this year, the planting of other crops and diversification in general.

Now, Mr. Editor, I am a one-horse farmer, the kind that the editors wish well but have no hopes for, yet one of the greatest number, and one of the vast multitude that feed and clothe millions that make no food or clothing. I am a college graduate, yet split rails, dig ditches, hold the plow-handles, drive the wagon, cut wood and do the chores at 56 years of age. I work at any thing that is to be done, yet I hold six diplomas—got one in 1910, one in 1911 and am expecting one or two more inside of 12 months. My little education is of the industrial kind—work and learn—and I can't see why boys and girls could not do so at some other places than the few that offer them the opportunities.

I can't even say I have a plan to prevent eight-cent cotton; but I would like to suggest why we have it and what I think would give us a better price. Why we have it is: first, because we were able to raise a bountiful crop, with the previous experience that it is all marketed in about three months. Second, many declare that they can raise it at three to four cents a pound.

If this be true, eight cents gives big profit. Third, Many are advertising that they can raise three to four bales per acre, and then ask \$5 a bushel for the seed. Now it seems to me that the seed would give all the profit needed and the lint at eight cents would soon put one in the millionaire class. All this, seems to me, buncombe or taffy. We can't do it. The fellow who can is in the Klondike and struck it rich. I know what I do and I know what most of my neighbors do. We can't possibly pull through on eight-cent cotton—it's a losing game. To better the price I would suggest not any less acreage or make one pound less of cotton, that is not business; I would try to make more—surely if it stays at eight cents, you must make more. Hog and hominy won't save you. Like living on blackberries in summer—it may keep you alive, but you'll never fatten. Yet berries are good, so is hog and hominy, so are potatoes and rice. You can raise oats and rye, clover and hay, chickens and livestock. All are good—but if you mean to make money, you must raise a big crop and then sell it to advantage.

Beef is three cents, hog round nine cents and hay \$10 per ton. That is no better for money than eight-cent cotton.

But some body says make all your supplies and hold your surplus. Then you will get the price. Now, when the farmer does that, where goes the carpenter, the painter, the manufacturer and the merchants? What becomes of the nurseryman when the

farmer becomes his own nurseryman?

No. I suggest that the farmer make all he can of any one or all crops that he possibly can, and if his land is more especially adapted for any one crop, that he make that crop almost exclusively. Would not a merchant so buy goods? Would not a manufacturer so make wares? That's business.

Here is the farmer's mistake. He sells at their price—he markets as fast as he gathers. He has no voice or concern—he is a minus quantity—takes just what is offered, like any other pauper.

I suggest that he look about him and open his eyes as to how the factory manages and see if he can't learn something.

They have salesmen to sell their wares, and if you don't come to them they go after you. We farmers need salesmen to sell. We need an agent to look after this matter exclusively. Warehouses will help, home-holding will help, diversifying the crop may help, but a sales-bureau alone will command the price. Let farmers cooperate like other business men, put their products in the hands of a selling bureau and the world that lives on the products he produces will bow the knee and pay the price.

W. T. CUTCHIN.  
Shankle, N. C.

**The Acreage Hog.**

AN agriculturalist stood watching while a lot full of hogs were eating. "I know now," he said, "why they call you pigs. It's because you eat just like pigs."

The hog never looks up at the man who is threshing down the acorns. When he feeds he puts his forefeet in the trough; he is not particular himself in this or any other respect, and he does not worry himself whether he puts out anybody else or not. He can't help it; he is just a hog.

It will now be easily understood what we mean by the acreage hog. When restraint of the acreage has been decided on in the interest of the general welfare, the acreage hog sees his opportunity. If the acreage is going to be reduced, then higher prices are to be expected, and he will fatten on the self-denial of other people. Instead of reducing, he will plant even more if possible, so that he will have a big crop to sell at the good prices secured through the conscientiousness of others. He cannot help it; he is a hopeless case, because he is only a hog.

But the worst of it is, that other planters, seeing that the hog persists in profiting on the self-restraint of the others, will feel impelled to follow his example. They are indignant at the idea that the hog should be the one to benefit the most.

The result of it all is that the confidently expected decrease in the acreage always fails to materialize. It is prevented by the selfishness of the hog, and the imitation of the hog's example by those who resent the idea of the hog always getting the best of the harvest.

The hog we have with us always and he is hopeless. However, it is a mistake to conclude that we must imitate him. It is best to allow him to behave himself in his own hog-gish way, unimitated. Left to himself, he would not be able to do much harm. The salvation of the country luckily does not depend on the reformation of the hog. It will be found in the steadfast refusal of the decent farmers to imitate his example. Let the hog enjoy his hog-

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gishness alone, and accord him the contempt which he deserves.—The Cotton Record.

In preparing the seed-bed care should be taken to break up all clods and to firm the soil down so that the moisture will be held and capillarity be established. Never put large quantities of fresh, coarse manure in drills directly under the seed as capillarity will be broken and the crop suffer from lack of moisture.—Charles S. Wadsworth, Arletta, Wash.

I think The Progressive Farmer is the best farm paper I ever read. I read every issue from beginning to end and find much that interests me.—L. W. Bookhart, Parler, S. C.

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