

Next Week—The "Stock Food" Fraud; A Further Exposure of a Gigantic Swindle.

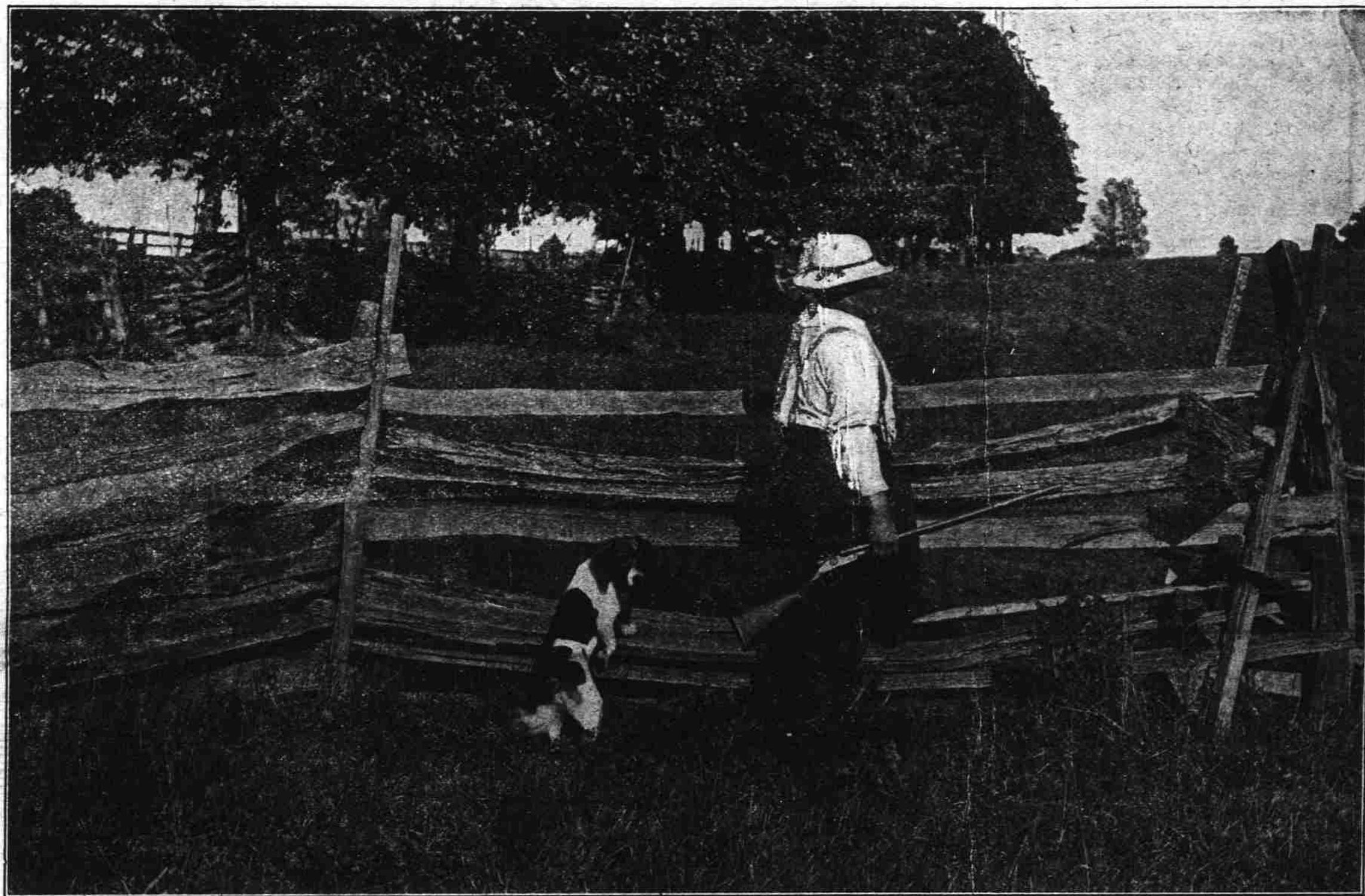
# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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## TWO CITY FRIENDS—BACK TO THE COUNTRY.

*The glory of the world in early November, the mystic spell of our Southern Indian Summer, now lures back to boyhood's country haunts many and many a farm-bred townsman whom the Great God Success has not blinded to life's purer joys. And happy indeed is the man who comes back often for such sweet communion with old Mother Nature and who understands the truth of Spurgeon's beautiful paragraph:*

*"He who forgets the humming of the bees among the heather, the cooing of the wood pigeons in the forest, the song of the birds in the woods, the rippling of rills among the rushes, and the sighing of the wind among the pines, need not wonder if his heart forgets to sing and his soul grows heavy. A day's breathing of fresh air upon the hills, or a few hours' ramble in the beech woods' umbrageous calm, would sweep the cobwebs out of the brains of scores of toiling men who are now but half alive."*

### PRESIDENT E. D. SMITH'S VIEWS.

#### Interesting Comments on the Situation By the President of the South Carolina Cotton Association.

"The Bureau's report on ginning makes the total amount of cotton ginned up to the present 4,910,000 bales. South Carolina is 396,000 as against 639,000 last year. I think all will agree that at least 50 per cent of South Carolina's crop was ginned up to the 18th of October. This being true, we will not make much over 700,000 bales of cotton. Last year's crop was about 1,125,000. This will leave South Carolina something like 400,000 bales short. Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina all show about the same percentage short.

"The next ginner's report, I am confident, will show that our contention that the crop is short, is true. Last week and the week before the mills and the cotton buyers gave eleven cents readily for cotton. If they could afford to buy it then at that figure, it is worth that much now, for the reason that they had placed their contracts months ahead and could afford to give eleven cents and show a handsome profit.

"There is no reason why you, the farmers of the South, should sacrifice what cotton you do sell them, because somebody predicted there was a much larger crop. Demand from them that they shall give for what you do sell them from now on, what they have been paying for it for the last two or three weeks at least. Cot-

ton is worth to-day on the markets, in view of the price and the scarcity of goods, twelve and one-half cents a pound. If the farmers will just absolutely refuse to sell it for less, this price can be obtained for the balance of this year.

"Of course everything depends upon the unanimity with which they hold cotton. I am still convinced that on account of the frost and storm making anything like a top crop is impossible; that this crop will not appreciably exceed last year's and therefore cotton is bound ultimately to go very much higher. The world will need 12,500,000 bales, and one of the best posted men in the cotton world wired me that if the crop should turn out 12,000,000 bales, it would readily bring 7d. in England.

I do not think any one looks for a crop as great as 12,000,000 bales. Let the farmers of the country settle this question, and settle it now, by absolutely refusing to part with their property, except at a value satisfactory to themselves. The break in the market of one cent a pound within three days entailing a loss of \$5 a bale compared with the labor of the farmer for twelve months to make that bale of cotton, is enough to arouse him to a sense of his duty in the premises. To work twelve months to produce that which speculators and gamblers can take 10 per cent from its value in 336 hours is enough to either make a man quit growing cotton or show that he is a man. The world is waiting to see whether you are men."