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South Carolina's Ship-Load of Immigrants.

Nearly 500 Laborers Brought Over by North German Lloyd Line—Secured By Commissioner Watson on His Trip to Northern Europe—Positions Promptly Found For All—The Promise of Other Trips to Follow.

Messrs. Editors: South Carolina has taken a radical step in the bringing of immigrants to the State. A ship with 475 immigrants has been brought into a South Carolina port and the immigrants distributed in different portions of the State. The experiment has been made under the directions of an official of the State, who went direct to those countries of Europe from which it was desired to secure immigrants and took the matter up with the highest officials of the governments.

On Sunday morning, November 4th, the Wittekind of the North German Lloyd Line came into Charleston harbor. On board was Commissioner E. J. Watson, of the South Carolina Department of Immigration, who had brought over twenty-five cabin passengers (of whom nineteen were adults, five children and one infant), and in the steerage 394 adults, forty-five children and eleven infants. There were 112 families, seventy-five single men and two single women. Before landing Mr. Watson, as an official of South Carolina, married twenty-nine of the couples.

There were 125 adult Belgians and twenty-two children; eight adult Hollanders and three children, and the rest were Austrians, French, Germans, and other nationalities. Most of them are Catholics in religion, with a few Lutherans. Several of the cabin passengers are well-to-do, and on arrival in Columbia deposited money in the bank; one of them put in \$3,700 in cash, and will buy a farm near this city.

Mr. Watson's Quest in Northern Europe.

Mr. Watson went to Europe in August and spent two months getting up the crowd of immigrants. The North German Lloyd Company told him it would run an immigrant ship to Charleston if he would secure 150 passengers, and he got three times that number. He endeavored on this trip to get chiefly operatives for the cotton mills, which are badly in need of hands, and the large majority of the immigrants who came on the Wittekind are of that class, many of them being skilled weavers. Within a week all were provided with positions, the mill operatives being sent direct on special trains the day after their landing to various mills in the upper part of South Carolina. The mill managers were prepared for their coming, had their houses ready, and met them at the station with interpreters. They are now at work with no friction or trouble at all.

Commissioner of Immigration Sargent was consulted by Commissioner

Watson before he went to Europe and has taken much interest in the experiment. He was on hand when the Wittekind arrived in Charleston harbor, and with his inspectors and officials facilitated the work of distributing the immigrants. He has endorsed Mr. Watson's idea of selecting the immigrants at their homes rather than after their arrival here, and has promised him all the assistance at his command.

Permanent Line Probable Between Bremen and Charleston.

Of the 500 new-comers only a dozen or so have expressed dissatisfaction with the work given them or with the wages, and this is considered remarkable, as it is difficult to please 500 persons of the same nationality in one section of the country, to say nothing of 500 persons of different nationalities, homesick, and in a strange land. The dissatisfied ones will be taken back to their home on the Wittekind when she sails the latter part of this month, if they then want to go. The ship will carry a cargo of cotton back to Bremen, having unloaded a cargo of German kainit for the phosphate mills. Another trip will be made in December when a cargo of dye stuffs will be brought over to Charleston for the cotton mills, while a cargo of cotton or lumber is guaranteed already for the return passage. Mr. Watson's efforts, then, will likely result in the establishment of a permanent line of the North German Lloyd ships between Bremen and Charleston.

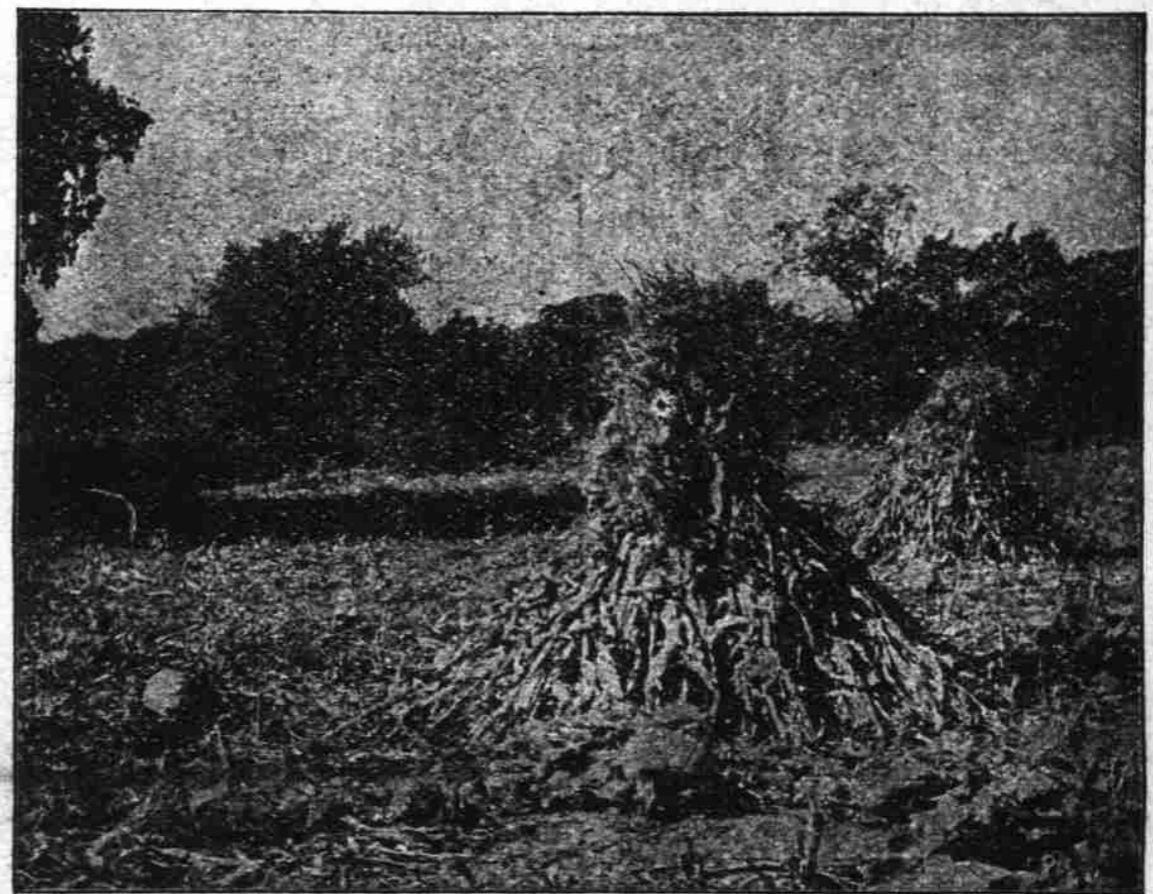
Farm and Household Help Next Trip.

On this next trip Mr. Watson expects to bring over a lot of farm laborers and household servants, for both of which classes there is an urgent demand in South Carolina just now. In fact the cry for domestic servants is the one which the Department of Immigration will soon have to heed, as the negro is giving so little satisfaction in that work that the people are determined to try white servants. There was disappointment that more servants were not brought over on the Wittekind, since several towns had delegations at the dock to employ such labor. In regard to the farm labor question, the effort will be made to bring over carefully selected colonies of farmers who will rent or purchase farms and develop those portions of the State where it is impossible to get enough negro laborers to make the crops.

The Department of Immigration was established two years ago and

CORN: A LITTLE MASTERPIECE FOR SHUCKING NIGHT.

"But, now, again my mind turns to the glorious corn. See it! Look on its ripening waving field. See how it wears a crown, prouder than monarch ever wore, sometimes jauntily, and sometimes after the storm the dignified survivors of the tempest seem to view a field of slaughter and to pity a fallen foe. And see the pendant caskets of the corn field filled with the wine of life, and see the silken fringes that set a form for fashion and for art. And now the evening comes and something of a time to rest and listen. The scudding clouds conceal the half and then reveal



the whole of the moonlit beauty of the night, and then the gentle winds make heavenly harmonies on a thousand harps that hang upon the borders and the edges and the middle of the field of ripening corn until my very heart seems to beat responsive to the rising and the falling of the long meldoious refrain. The melancholy clouds sometimes make shadows on the field and hide its aureate wealth and now they move, and slowly into sight there comes the golden glow of promise for an industrious land. Glorious corn, that more than all the sisters of the fields wears tropic garments. Nor on the shore of Nilus or of Ind does nature dress her form more splendidly. And now, again, the corn, that in its kernel holds the strength that shall (in the body of the man refreshed) subdue the forest and compel response from every stubborn field, or shining in the eye of beauty, make blossoms of her cheeks and jewels of her lips, and thus make for man the greatest inspiration to well-doing, the hope of companionship of that sacred, warm and well-embodied soul—a woman.

"Aye, the corn, the royal corn, within whose yellow heart there is of health and strength for all the nations. The corn triumphant, that with the aid of man hath made victorious procession across the tufted plain and laid foundation for the social excellence that is and is to be. This glorious plant transmitted by the alchemy of God sustains the warrior in battle, the poet in song, and strengthens everywhere the thousand arms that work the purposes of life. Oh, that I had the voice of song or skill to translate into tones the harmonies, the symphonies and oratorios that roll across my soul when standing sometimes by day and sometimes by night upon the borders of this verdant sea I note a world of promise, and then before one-half the year is gone I view its full fruition and see its heaped gold await the need of man. Majestic, fruitful, wondrous plant. Thou greatest among the manifestations of the wisdom and love of God, that may be seen in all the fields or upon the hillsides or in the valleys."—From the address of Governor Oglesby, of Illinois, before the Fellowship Club of Chicago.

while this is the first large lot of immigrants that have been brought in during that time, there have been a number of individuals and families brought here at different times. Commissioner Watson has opened offices and appointed agents in Glasgow, London, Manchester, Sligo, Ghent, Middleburg, Bremen, Berlin, Roubaix, Copenhagen, and there is now a nucleus of eighty passengers already booked for the next trip. Under

the act establishing the department, the Commissioner is restricted to the peoples of Northern Europe, not being allowed to bring in Italians and other Latin peoples.

The experiment is being watched with interest and all eyes are on South Carolina's efforts to increase her white population by means of European immigration.

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