

The Commonwealth

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor
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JUST ONE POUND.

It has been said over and over again that the Southern Cotton Association is a great and important organization. Such a conclusion is beyond doubt by any one who has kept posted on the work of the Association since its organization two years ago.

The prime object, indeed the sole aim of the Association, is to bring the price of cotton to a reasonable figure and hold it there. When the Association was organized in New Orleans two years ago cotton was selling for about seven cents, and since that time it has sold as high as fifteen cents, and throughout the present season the price has been fairly good, averaging ten cents. All this is gratifying to those who have labored for the success of the Association and those who have kept sympathy with its work.

As already said in this article, the aim and end of the Association is to hold the price of cotton to a reasonable figure; but this can not be done without some money. The first plan of raising funds for the support of the work was by a levy of ten cents on every bale of cotton produced by members of the Association, together with initiation fee of twenty-five cents and quarterly dues of the same amount.

From some quarters there have come objections to the bale levy of ten cents, but this is most unreasonable in any one, whether a member of the Association or not. Just think how small a contribution it is. It is only one pound of cotton from each bale. And taking it that cotton might have remained at seven or eight cents until now had not the Southern Cotton Association been organized, the increased value of cotton has been an average of \$10.00 a bale. Then who is so foolish as to object to taking one pound from each bale of cotton to make it bring \$10.00 more than it would have done had there been no Southern Cotton Association? Why, the cotton buyer digs nearly that much out of every bale when he samples it.

It is a very small thing to pay the bale levy, and yet the ten cents per bale on all cotton produced in the South would support the Association. If Halifax county produced say 16,000 bales of cotton and every farmer should pay his ten cents per bale the amount would be \$1,600, ample for meeting every need for this county's share in supporting the Association.

It is too small a thing to quibble over, and surely every farmer who loves the interests of the South and cares for its welfare will gladly pay the little ten cents per bale and thus do his small part in supporting the Association.

Remember that it is only one pound of cotton from every bale.

BIG CONVENTION IN BIRMINGHAM.

The annual convention of the Southern Association to be held in Birmingham, Ala., January 15 to 19th, promises to be the biggest thing of the kind ever held in the South.

A gentleman of extended observation and keen interest in the Southern Cotton Association said in Raleigh last week that heretofore there has not been a great deal of attention paid the meetings of the Association by the people where the conventions have been held. But the organization has now assumed such importance before the world that the people are beginning to realize something of what it means.

Birmingham will do great things for the Convention next week. From five to seven thousand visitors are expected and the city will be theirs for the time. The business men of Birmingham are mindful of their own interests and opportunities and they will make all who go glad that they did so.

Great strides will be made by the Southern Cotton Association in that Convention and it will have a stronger hold than ever upon the Southern farmers, and through them upon the world.

When the cold winds dry and crack the skin a box of salve can save much discomfort. In buying, save look for the name on the box, avoid any imitations, and be sure you get the original DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. Sold by E. T. Whitehead & Co.

STATE MEETING IN RALEIGH.

The North Carolina division of the Southern Cotton Association held annual meeting in Raleigh January 2nd. There was not a large gathering but the meeting was interesting and those in attendance were enthusiastic. Seventeen counties were represented, and the representatives were quite substantial men.

Mr. C. C. Moore, of Charlotte, was reelected president, and the office of State secretary was left off, it being decided that president Moore could do the work of both president and secretary from his office in Charlotte.

Mr. J. B. Davis of Warren county, was elected vice-president.

A new executive committee was elected as follows: A. J. McKinnon, of Robeson, J. H. Currie of Cumberland, and J. T. W. Broome, of Union. At an after meeting the retiring executive committee were appointed an auxiliary committee. They are Col. H. C. Dickey of Richmond, Dr. R. H. Splight of Edgecombe, Mess. Ashley Horns of Johnson, H. C. Brown of Columbus and A. C. Green of Wake.

The work of the auxiliary committee will be to keep the interest of the Southern Cotton Association before the farmers of the State by a weekly letter through the daily press, with the request that county papers which are in sympathy with the Southern Cotton Association will reprint them.

The reports of president Moore and the executive committee showed that the Association is in debt some for salaries to the president and secretary and contribution to the National treasury.

There was general hopefulness and confidence for the further development of the Association and the meeting inspired those who attended with a determination to stand to the principles of the organization and make it greater all the while.

President Moore received the hearty endorsement of the Association, and his reelection will inspire confidence throughout the State.

The good work of the executive committee was recognized and it will be a source of gratification that these gentlemen retain their connection with the Association as an auxiliary committee.

TO SAFEGUARD GINNERS' REPORT.
Mr. Ransom Hinton, of Wake, offered the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, that the members of the Southern Cotton Association and other farmers' organizations be requested to use their influence to have a law passed in each of the cotton growing States requiring the ginners to report to the commissioner of agriculture of the State in which they live on the first and fifteenth of each month during ginning season the number of bales of cotton they have ginned and also the average weight of the bales. That the commissioner of agriculture shall keep this information as a State secret until ten o'clock a. m. of the day on which the government report is issued at Washington D. C. At ten o'clock a. m. the commissioner of agriculture in each State shall wire by a secret cipher code the total number of bales ginned in his State to the secretary of agriculture at Washington D. C., who shall be requested to immediately add together the number of bales ginned in all of the States and wire it back to the commissioners of agriculture of the cotton States. The commissioner of agriculture shall be required to immediately report by telephone the number of bales ginned to the secretaries of the farmers' organizations and the president of the National Ginners' Association and the Associated Press.

The words used in the secret cipher code shall be printed, but the figures shall be written by the Secretary of Agriculture. The words of the code shall be changed for each report, never using the same word more than once.

The Commissioner of Agriculture shall be required after using the secret code to immediately put it in an envelope and seal it up and write his name across the seal and put the official seal of his department in wax so as to securely fasten the envelope and lock it up in his safe until wanted to make the next report.

That the delegates to the Birmingham convention are instructed to introduce this resolution and do all they can to have it passed by the Birmingham convention. That the Secretary be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to the president of the Farmers' Union and the president of the National Ginners' Association and to each of the Commissioners of Agriculture of the cotton growing States.

That this law shall be effective after a similar law is passed by each of the cotton growing States, and not before.

THE LEGISLATURE OF 1907.

The News and Observer, which now goes daily to over 11,000 subscribers, will give fuller and better reports than ever of the proceedings of the General Assembly. It is on the spot and can and will get and print all the news. One dollar will get you the daily every day during the session of sixty days. Address

JOSEPH DANIELS, EDITOR, Raleigh, N. C.

COUNTY MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN COTTON ASSOCIATION.

The Halifax county branch of the Southern Cotton Association held regular meeting in the court house at Halifax Monday, January 7th.

President E. E. Hilliard called the meeting to order. A call of townships showed that all the townships were represented but Littleton and Palmyra.

The president made a brief report in which he urged the Association to stand firmly by the principles of the organization and make all possible effort to make the work for 1907 a success.

The following collections by townships were reported from the bale levy: Conocoanara by J. H. Pope \$9.00. Enfield by M. Shields 4.00. Faucetts by T. H. Dickens 2.50. Palmyra by W. T. Ruffin 1.10. Scotland Neck by F. P. Shields 1.00.

Also quarterly dues were paid by F. P. Shields for 1905 and 1906 2.00. A. A. White for 1906 1.00.

President Hilliard read a letter from State president C. C. Moore, urging a full collection of the bale levy and a remittance to him by January 10th.

The name of W. H. Gregory and W. K. Pittman were enrolled as new members from Faucetts township.

J. H. Pope offered his resignation as collector for Conocoanara township, which was accepted and Mr. B. F. Parks was appointed collector for that township.

Mr. J. C. Butts resigned as collector for Halifax township and Mr. W. T. Eure was appointed collector for that township.

Mr. L. T. Garner was appointed collector for Weldon township in the place of G. W. Fulghum, who asked to be relieved.

Motion by F. P. Shields that the county treasurer be instructed to send the State president the proper proportion of the funds collected.

Mr. P. N. Stainback, of Weldon, made some interesting remarks of encouragement for the Association.

A resolution was adopted instructing the secretary to write to all the township collectors urging them to collect the bale levy at once and the quarterly dues for 1906.

President Hilliard asked for a rising vote by all who will be loyal to the Association this year. Every member present stood up and thus pledged to do everything possible for the further development of the Association.

BUSINESS GOOD IN SCOTLAND NECK, A PROHIBITION TOWN.

Correspondence to The Commonwealth.

Short crops and the big drop in the price of cotton a few weeks before Christmas, did not hold trade down in Scotland Neck this season. Most of the merchants say they had a finer Christmas trade and some of them say they had by far the best trade they ever had. So it does not look like prohibition kills a town or hurts business in Scotland Neck. How many vacant houses can you find in town now? All are occupied and more houses are needed to accommodate fifteen families who would like to live in Scotland Neck, a prohibition town.

Does this look like prohibition kills a town or hurts the business in Scotland Neck? We all know that prohibition is the right thing, the good book bears it out uncompromisingly. And I want to say unhesitatingly that I do not believe that prohibition kills a town or hurts business in Scotland Neck. But I do believe that it makes business better, beside helping the town morally and in other ways. We certainly have better order on the streets now than we did when we had saloons in town. I will admit that prohibition does not make business better for the town lock-up. Perhaps that is what some people mean when they say that it hurts business in Scotland Neck.

Somebody says we get all the whiskey we need now, and I do not doubt it; and they say it is better whiskey and cheaper whiskey. And yet they say the need of whiskey hurts business and kills the town. I think the merchants ought to be the best judges as to its hurting business. Ask them about it. It is a wonder to me that business men, property owners and everybody in town don't get together on this whiskey question and say we cannot afford to have it sold in town, because it hurts business and the town in a general way. I believe they will come to it yet. Well, then, why do some people want it sold in town again?

I want to say that if some poor women and children will have to suffer and have their pleasure, comfort and happiness destroyed, and sometimes lose their life, in order that my taxes may be less and give us a little extra money to improve the looks of the town, I say let the grass and weeds grow higher in the future than in the past and the taxes stay high and if necessary go higher. Better have high taxes in Scotland Neck than do anything that may or will cause the poor, weak and unfortunate to be deprived of the things which morally belong to them.

If any man wants to bring whiskey back again in Scotland Neck to make his taxes less, I am sorry for him, when

he knows and must realize the ultimate outcome and what naturally follows the sale of strong drink in Scotland Neck. May God enlighten his conscience if he has any.

J. D. RAY.

Good News for Scotland Neck.

Science at Last Discovers a Real Cure For Rheumatism.

After years of experiments a new scientific remedy has been found that not only relieves, but absolutely cures Rheumatism and kindred diseases, to stay cured. Rheumatism is caused by an excess of poisonous acids in the blood. The new discovery RHEUMACIDE, though purely vegetable, and acting through nature's channels, neutralizes these acids and sweeps all poisons and harmful germs out of the blood. At the same time it tones up the stomach and regulates the liver and kidneys.

RHEUMACIDE therefore, cures the disease permanently, because it removes the cause. It has cured hundreds of cases after the most noted doctors and hospitals have failed. RHEUMACIDE cured James Wilkes, of Dillon, S. C., after he had been held in bed by rheumatism for three years and his feet were drawn up almost to his back. This is only one of the many marvelous cures RHEUMACIDE has already performed. RHEUMACIDE is curing many cases of Rheumatism, Sciatica, lumbago, gout, kidney trouble, indigestion and constipation, right in this community to-day.

Because it has cured so many others we believe it will cure you. All the leading druggists in this place sell and recommend RHEUMACIDE.

A BURGLARY NEAR TILLERY.

Enfield Ledger.

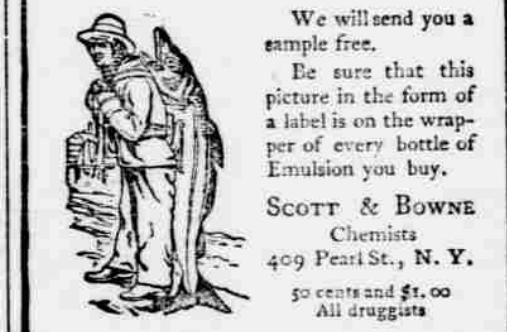
On Saturday night before Christmas a burglar entered the residence of Mr. J. W. King, near Tillery. Mr. King, and one of his sons hearing a noise in a room took a gun and went to investigate when the burglar escaped through a back door. They did not get a sight of him and don't know whether he was white or colored. He had gone through a bureau drawer but took nothing. It is thought he was in search of money which he supposed to be in the house.

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