

FARMERS' ADVOCATE

TARBORO', N. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1892.

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NEWS.

OUR PEOPLE
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WELDON.—Mr. J. W. Grant of Northampton county, died in the upper part of that county Tuesday afternoon, of grip, aged 85 years. Mr. Grant's the fifth of the family to be taken within several months. He was one of the most prominent citizens of Northampton, having occupied many positions of trust in the gift of the people. He was a good man, a good citizen, a good neighbor and a good parent and friend. Verily death loves a shining mark.—News.

RALPH.—One of the most sensible of practical farmers in Edgecombe county, in a private letter, says that if the southern states would raise all their supplies it would not cost them a cent, as the cotton that would then be raised would sell for as much as it does now, if not more, and if these times will drive them to it, hard times will be a blessing instead of a calamity. Smaller crops and better attention would be another help. Land, like man, needs rest, and without it can not hold up.—Chronicler.

GENERAL NEWS.

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IN A BAD FIX.

FARMER LARRY GANTT WRITES FOR THE CONDITION OF THE FARMERS
Cotton is Low and Living is High and they have not the where with to Arrange for New Year.

WATKINSVILLE, Ga. January 8. Atlanta Constitution.

For the past two weeks I have been mingling with farmers and Alliancemen of the counties of Oconee, Clarke, Madison and Oglethorpe, and have also seen and conversed with planters from other sections. I have made a special study of the political views of Alliancemen and investigated their faith in the ultimate success of their organization, and given particular attention to the financial condition of our agricultural element. I will give you a plain and unvarnished report of the outlook as it appears to me, and from what I can gather from parties living in other sections of the state. I believe that the situation in the counties around me will also apply to any part of Georgia.

There is no disguising the fact that the average farmer has about reached the end of his row, and unless the merchant and creditor carries him another year, and leaves him the land and the implements with which to make another crop, that hundreds of men will be turned out of house and home, or forced to become hirelings and tenants in fields that they once owned. And the poor farmer is in no manner responsible for this condition of affairs, and neither can it be laid at the door of that great scape-goat, overproduction of the fleecy staple, to the exclusion of provision crops.

Last Spring the farmers of Georgia went to work with renewed spirits and faith. They had great hope in the Alliance movement bringing them long hopes for financial relief, and the preceding year they had made an unusually fine crop; but many planters lost their profit by holding their cotton until spring. This mistake was their first set-back. Then you will remember that we had a long rainy spell at the very time that cotton should be planted and chopped out, and the result was that the grass grew faster than the crop, and few farmers were able to clear their fields. Then last Summer, at the very time that rain was most essential to mature the ripening bolls, we had a prolonged drought that destroyed even the gloomy prospects of a small harvest. Say to add to the tribulations of the planter, corn, hay and broom, that he had to buy from the west, greatly advanced in price, and the result was that the farmer was unable to cross on better bread, and what was still more encouraging nearly every farmer planted enough grain to do him, and they also began to raise at least part of their bacon. Particular attention was devoted to forage crops, and the much maligned Bermuda grass, that in years gone by was the most dreaded enemy of the farmer, was planted and raised in such quantities that it has become the staple of the farm, and the farmer's most valuable asset.

But the unavoidable disasters that have overtaken the farmers are blighting the bright outlook, and many honest faces that beamed with hope twelve months ago are now all overclouded with despair. Even with the short crop made, had the gold of King of Wall Street not been hoarded, and the necessities of the country demanded that they do so—enabling our southern banks to accommodate the merchants, and the merchant in turn to indulge the planter, and a reasonable price had been paid him for his staple, we could have easily weathered the storm, and by the exercise of mutual concessions and economy doubtless regained in 1892 all we had lost in 1891.

There is no reason whatever for this epidemic of distress, want and forebodings of mortgages now sweeping over our state. The farmers are not bankrupt, and their lands are worth many times the amount of their indebtedness. There is more home-raised corn, forage and bacon in the country than known since the abolition of slavery. They would be able to operate their farms next year with but little, if any assistance from the west. Their plow stock and cattle are in better condition than I ever knew them before. By the improved system of preparing against washes and the rotation of crops, our fields will produce fully 25 per cent more than they did five years ago. Farmers are learning to economize too, and any merchant will tell you that their store accounts have been greatly reduced. And neither can I see any just reason for the low price that cotton brings. If there be an overproduction of the staple, it should also affect the price of manufactured goods

AS OF RAW MATERIAL.

and yet we are still forced to pay as much for cotton clothes as when the fleecy staple brought 10 and 11 cents! There is "something rotten in Denmark," and I believe there has been a timely combination formed between speculators and somebody else to force the farmer to sell his crop at less than the cost of production.

We are now confronted by an unnatural and an unwarranted state of affairs. We see the granaries of Georgia bursting with plenty; we see our farmers fast becoming self-sustaining, and we see them amply able to secure their creditors for the last dollar they owe, and are only pleading for a little forbearance and time to recover from their providential misfortunes of a year. And yet we see the men who hold our money bags tightening their grip upon the currency—the commercial life-blood of the country—and refusing to let out a dollar on any collateral that the people can furnish. We see the pockets of every court officer bulging with papers empowering to seize upon not only the lands and implements, but also the low stock, farm implements, and bread and meat of the planter upon whom the world and every class depends for prosperity and sustenance. And we see, too, these goods sold under the sheriff's hammer for one-half or even less than their former owners must pay for them next Spring.

When you take from a farmer the tools with which he must work, the bread from his mouth and the seed from his barn, the merchant by that act kills the goose that lays the golden eggs. He will, however, or later be gorged in the ruin that he has made of that happy, moral home.

I can name hundreds of instances where farmers in this section have been thus broken up by their creditors, but will select one case as a fair illustration. There is a planter living in Oconee county who lost his house and contents by fire, and borrowed \$1,200 to replace them. Besides he had a mortgage was given for foreign markets for it, thus spreading its blighting influence to foreign lands, can this be pleasing to God, Mr. President?

Do you not know, Mr. President, that our government and laws are the essence of partiality; that it is run in the interest of wealth instead of humanity? Do you not know that capital, so called, or wealth, do not change or commerce is a system of gigantic robbery? Do you not know that the toilers who produce all the wealth have the least, and the ones that produce the least or nothing have the most?

Do you not know, Mr. President, that under this system which takes from him that has much, and gives to him that has much, or from the poor and gives to the rich has enabled a few men, a mere handful (31,000) to acquire half the wealth of the country? Now, Mr. President, if 31,000 men or families, can in thirty years acquire half the wealth of the republic, how long will it take them to gobble it all? Under this system of commerce three millions of our citizens are subjects of and supported by charity. This system of unjust exchanges fills our land with idle men who tramp the country hunting work. An advertisement for twenty-five men to labor will bring five hundred in twenty-four hours in any large city. Our penitentiaries are crowded to overflowing, our jails are full, a demand for large insane asylums. What can it be? More executions by lynch law than by civil law. Murders, suicides, robbery, embezzlements, all kinds of crimes on the increase. What does it mean, Mr. President?

Our robbery system of exchanges has built up and is now building great cities more rapidly than any country ever did in any age. These cities in the eyes of the superficial observer are the pride of the nation. But to the reflecting man who looks beneath the surface for causes they seem to be "storm centers." By the mad moral blind maddom-worship, they are centers of vice, crime, poverty, wretchedness and misery, type of the pit below. They are ulcers on the "body politic," seething masses of corruption, sinks of iniquity standing over the ranks of the wretched, and avers the calamity. But today we see the agricultural interests of the entire cotton growing states, imperiled. We see a million or more farmers on the verge of bankruptcy, and by extending them timely aid they can be rescued and saved. Let congress at once appoint a committee to visit their states, and investigate the condition of the farmers and devise some means to enable them to meet their pressing necessities on such collateral as they can give, viz their lands, or their stock and crops.

The farmers need help, and they need it right now. It is high time they were preparing for their next crop, and only too many of them are without means or hope.

Recently I was talking to Hon. James M. Smith, Oglethorpe's great planter, and one of the brainiest and clearest headed men in the south. Colonel Smith tells me that he never knew the country so demoralized. Both whites and blacks have lost heart and hope, and threaten to move in masses to the towns and cities, with a hope of bettering their condition. They see nothing for them on the farm. Nearly every farmer's property is mortgaged, and they are in a bad place and try his hand at some other business than farming. Many planters only made one or two bales to the plow, and could not pay one-half of their indebtedness. Even the most successful farmers, who paid cash for their supplies, lost heavily. Merchants tell us that not one farmer in five has paid out

ANOTHER PROCLAMATION NEEDED.

Rev. Oglesby Thinks That President Harrison Overlooked Some Important Matters in His Thanksgiving Proclamation and So Writes Him an Open Letter.

Chicago Express.

Mr. President: Your proclamation calling on the people to meet in their houses of worship and publicly acknowledge their obligations to God, and return thanks to him for his blessings so bountifully bestowed on the nation was timely and appropriate.

He has in His good providence given us a wonderful crop, enough to apply the necessities of all living things; we have been spared the ravages of pestilence, comparative peace has reigned within our country and no foreign foe has disturbed our borders. It is eminently proper that we should be thankful and express our gratitude in a most public manner.

But, Mr. President, how have we used these inestimable blessings? Do you not know that the government is in league with the rich? Do you not know that the saloon exercises the balance of power and turns the scale in our elections? This great curse which destroys the peace and happiness of millions of homes, curses the hearts of millions of mothers, wives and sisters, blights the hopes and wrecks the lives of millions of men and boys, yet our government fosters it, protects it, licenses it, and encourages it even look out for foreign markets for it, thus spreading its blighting influence to foreign lands, can this be pleasing to God, Mr. President?

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY DR. J. W. JONES, PRESIDENT STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Hygiene of Nature: Natural Selection and Immunity from Disease.

BY DR. ROYALINE J. CURTIS, PROFESSOR OF HYGIENE IN THE JOHNS HOPKINS COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, CHICAGO, ILL.

THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSE OF DISEASE.

In studying this subject I refer, of course, to the parasitic diseases in general, and in special to the disease caused by microbes, or vegetable parasites. Looking at this subject from the moral as well as pathological standpoint, we are reminded of the holy text which reads that death came into this world by sin. I think we are sufficiently well acquainted with death, but I think the discoveries of late years will give us a clue to the definition of sin as related to the infectious diseases. I think this sin consists in the fact that all living things come into existence for a living, and each one of them has a right to live, and that the fundamental cause of disease is that all living things are created with an appetite for each other.

There is practically no difference, we observe, between the natural conflict of wolves and antelopes, and tubercle bacilli with the cells of certain tissues of the body which cannot resist them. The object of the warfare is the same in each case. The method is different, but the results are just the same. The wolves slay by speed and tooth and claw for the purpose of eating their natural prey, and destroy all antelopes which cannot resist them by the "vital resistance" of speed; while tubercle bacilli, in the glands of the body, will poison to death the cells which cannot resist the poison by vital resistance, and consume the cells as their prey. On the other hand, the antelopes which can acquire speed by being chased will escape, while the cells which can acquire immunity or resistance, through conflict with a poison will escape.

The terms of these analogous propositions are alike in every feature. The motives and necessities are the same in each case. The rule, the ultimate result, is the same. The fact that certain wounds cause death in one instance, and sequent disease in another, makes no difference, each case there is vital necessity, appetite on one side, and vitality on the other, which is acquired on the other side, and they are equal in biology, and it follows that the phenomena of disease are due to a natural selection, as a result of natural selection, as a result of the general law of life.

But it will be found that the law will apply to all other diseases, as well as the infectious or parasitic diseases. The most general rule of adaptation of living things to their environment is the result of natural selection, the phenomena of natural selection, the result of the general law of life.

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A Business View.

We clip the following from the Truth, because it gives the truth as well, or better than we could:

"Now, the farmers and laborers, who are interested in this paper, ask the business men of this city and country to give their support to their paper. The farmers have determined to patronize those who patronize them. It is merely a matter of business. The farmers or laborers are not making a fight against any business man, or his business, here or elsewhere. They desire to see everybody prosper, to see all make money, if they do so legitimately and honestly. It is not business men these laborers are after, it is the unholly schemers and corrupt politicians that take bread from their mouths and clothing from their backs, and by the eternal gods they will fight them to the bitter end, or until their grievances are adjusted. If you are a reader of history you know the causes of the destruction of Rome, you know why Ireland and Russia are suffering to-day, you know the corrupt politicians are the cause of the destruction of nations and the oppressors of the people, you know there is something wrong in this country or there would not be this army of over 1,000,000 tramps. It is to seek out this wrong and then crush out of existence the laws that make this thing possible that the farmers and laborers strive for. It is common justice they want, and nothing more."

It is possible that you belong to the class who believe that money has always ruled, therefore it always will? Don't you see that different state of society now to that of former ages? There is too much light in our country now, to admit of any form of slavery being practiced. Not

only a county, scarcely a township, that could not furnish a President, and cabinet capable of running this government as well, and in many cases vastly better than it has been for the past twenty-five years. The way it is going now, Mr. President, means slavery for the masses for all time to come. Four men, the "big four" control the meat market for 60,000,000 of consumers. Not a man outside of that little ring of four, can raise a hoof or horn and set a price and sell in market. Is not that slavery?

Our system has filled our country with debts amounting to thirty thousand millions, the interest on which can't be less than \$30 a head or \$150 to each family counting the inmates of prisons, insane asylums, invalids and idiots when as a matter of fact a vast majority of the families in our country don't make \$150 all told each year. The result is, this interest is not paid in money, but the vast debts of our country, like the famous maelstrom, swallow up the property of the people. Hence the farms are going into this sink-hole by the thousands year by year. Hounding us to stop this rate, slavery is not certain doom. Telling the people that high tariff or low tariff will be a remedy, is giving them a stone for bread. And the dumb people will find it out by and by.

It is not safe, Mr. President, to bank on the ignorance of the people much longer. For ages labor has been the under dog because of ignorance, but now the laborer is getting his blind eyes open as to his rights, and demand them. Mr. President, don't be deceived by the silly talk that this People's Party movement, this "craze," this "calamity howl," is spasmodic, ephemeral, and will soon pass. You may as well dismiss that idea at once and forever. It would be as easy to make the Mississippi River run toward the North Pole as to stop this "howl" until the people get justice.

No government can count on the great God upholding them in oppression and injustice. We tried to call Him in our system of chattel slavery but it did not work. We said, and made millions believe the lie, that it was a divine institution. But the Lord said no. We are now saying by our laws and practices, that usury is right. Out of this has come untold millions of debts. From it comes trusts, combines, monopolies, the concentration of wealth and slavery. Mr. President, you occupy a very responsible position.

Scarcely any president of the republic, not even Mr. Lincoln, ruled in a more critical time. Industrial slavery must go. This war between capital and labor will end in the emancipation of labor. It lays very much in your power to decide whether it ends peacefully or in violence. Nothing would be more appropriate now, that for you as chief magistrate to appoint a national fast day, and call on the people to assemble in their churches, and ask God to help the nation to put itself in harmony with the divine law. National sins are punished by national calamities, and less repented of, and turned away from. Our nation can be no exception. We persisted in holding a poor weak people in bondage. There was no need of a drop of blood being shed, but we would have it so. Now labor is in shackles, bound hand and foot. Will you, Mr. President, have your high justice and influence in having these shackles removed peacefully? Will you issue another emancipation proclamation in the name of the republic and of God, "breaking every yoke and letting the oppressed go free." In so doing you will carry through for no attribute of His takes sides with the reign of the money-power in our country and the world.

Rev. D. Oglesby.