

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

Published Twice a Week—Tuesdays and Fridays.

W. F. MARSHALL, Editor and Proprietor.

DEVOTED TO THE PROTECTION OF HOME AND THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTY.

One Dollar a Year in Advance.

VOL. XXIV.

GASTONIA, N. C., TUESDAY, JULY 21, 1903.

NO. 58.

## POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS ON TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Under this head will be printed from time to time noteworthy utterances on themes of current interest. They will be taken from public addresses, books, magazines, newspapers, in fact wherever we may find them. Sometimes these selections will accord with our views and the views of our readers, sometimes the opposite will be true. But by reason of the subject matter, the style, the authorship, or the views expressed, each will have an element of timely interest to make it a conspicuous utterance.

### The Mistake at Oyster Bay.

Greenville Reflector.

It may be unkind to remind the public of it, but we still believe that a great deal of the negro cussedness perpetrated lately, and the consequent punishment by whites, is the direct result of the policy of the mistake now located at Oyster Bay.

### The Endless Chain of Life.

Saline County (Kan.) Index.

Every farmer boy wants to be a school teacher, every school teacher hopes to be an editor, every editor would like to be a banker, every banker would like to be a trust magnate, and every trust magnate hopes some day to own a farm and have cows and pigs and horses to look after. We end where we begin.

### New York Lucre Isn't Filthy.

Dr. C. S. Taylor, in Biblical Recorder.

I did not see a silver dollar in New York. Instead, everybody seemed to be handling nice, crisp, clean, new one and two dollar bills, to say nothing of the fresh fives and tens. Why cannot our bankers send off a few tons of heavy dollars and a few bushels of filthy lucre and get in exchange what the Northern people handle?

### By Their Own Efforts.

Savannah News.

There is no better evidence that they come of a race that does things than the achievements of the Southern people since the close of the Civil War. Less than forty years ago the South was a ruin. She had to be rebuilt from the bottom up. She is far richer and greater than ever before and her promise for the future is far brighter. What she is is the result of the efforts of her own people.

### The South's Intellectual Vigor.

Savannah News.

The South is the only section of the Union in which the white population is composed almost wholly of genuine native Americans. Probably it is because of this that Southern men are notable for the display of intellectual vigor, whether they are found in New York city or in the homes of their ancestors. They have always played a conspicuous part in the affairs of the nation, and there is no question but that they will continue to do so.

### Debtors to the South.

New York Sun.

It may be said, too, that the professional and commercial importance of the Southerners in New York exceeds that of the emigrants from any other part of the Union, unless it be New England. In law, medicine and the church our Southern-born inhabitants have won distinction, and in business they hold a foremost place. Our indebtedness to the intellectual vigor of the South is great and obvious, and generally the emigration thence to other parts of the Union has been remarkable for the high quality it brought.

### A Word for the Hour.

Raleigh Biblical Recorder.

An educated dead-beat is incomparably less desirable as a citizen than an uneducated man. It does not improve a parasite to give him a diploma. Free education may defeat the objects of education by making parasites and paupers. The men that have paid their way through school with hard-earned money or the men that have made their way through life by hard fighting are the men even to-day that carry the world on their backs. There is more education in getting an education for one's self, whether in school or out, than there is in all the curriculum and the rest of the process. The new British degree for men that have achieved is really the highest of degrees. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou earn thy manhood. Toil is the great teacher.

### Roosevelt Has Done Harm.

New York Times, 7th.

Mr. Roosevelt has done the negroes of the South no good. He has done them and the whole country great harm. He has aroused a race hatred in all sections that was in the way of slowly dying out. The scheme of the Democrats [to divide the colored voters of the North] to which Mr. Depew alludes, selfish as it was, was bound to have a good effect, since, so far as it was pushed, it would have tended to destroy race prejudice in politics, and it would to some extent have spread to the South, where its influence would have been still more beneficent. At best the action of the President has stimulated mere office seeking and encouraged office seekers among the negroes while he has checked a movement that distinctly would have tended to peace and good feeling between the races. This Mr. Depew crows over. It should be a source of regret and shame.

### Mrs. Flagler Was Starving.

Idle Comment, in Charlotte Observer.

It is related that Mrs. Henry M. Flagler, who was Miss Mary Lily Kenan, of this State, came near starving to death a little while ago. In her palatial residence in the North there were unlimited things to eat, but they were very be-sauced and Frenchified. Mrs. Flagler went to her husband and said: "I'm starving."

"What?"  
"Yes, starving. I want some chicken and gravy, and some hominy, and some batter-cakes."  
"See the butler," said Mr. Flagler.  
The butler was the only man Mrs. Flagler feared, but she gave him her orders. The next morning she was served with the food in course style. The hominy came with cream and sugar. The chicken came next, and the gravy had the taste of Neapolitan sauce, and the batter-cakes were sugary. Then it was that Mrs. Flagler fled to her home, seeking cooking of the Southern style.

## AGRICULTURAL TOPICS AND FARM VIEWS AND NEWS

"Agriculture is the Foundation of Manufacture and Commerce."

NOTE.—This Department is a special feature of THE GAZETTE. It is conducted by Mr. S. DEWEY FLAGLER, the Gastonia county correspondent of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Statistics, in the interest of our agricultural readers.

### LIBRARY NOTES.

Since June 1st there has been added to the county correspondent's library the following volumes, to-wit: Maps: Soil Map of Iredell County, N. C., 36x24; Soil Map of Alamance County, N. C., 26x18 inches, drawn on a scale of one mile to the inch. Volumes: Johnston Grass, Forage Plants and Forage Resources of the South, The Chinch Bug, history, habits, enemies, remedies, and preventatives; 18th Annual Report, Bureau Animal Industry, 1902, pages 706, cloth. Total volumes on Scientific Agriculture and kindred subjects in library 362.

### FARMING AND THE BLACK MAN.

Before the war, '81-'85, the agricultural soils of this county were scientifically cultivated, for these old-time agriculturalists were, as a rule, educated men. But these ante-bellum farmers were not merely cotton raisers. They raised everything that was consumed on their domains; all the corn consumed was home grown, as was the bacon and beef, and the needed horses and mules were also raised at home. That was the common-sense way. After the war, the negro was given his freedom, and the crime of all time was committed. The negro began to "hire out," and some became imbued with the idea that to "hire out" was beneath the dignity of a freed man, and, after wasting the best part of a year in celebrations of his new condition by marching up and down the high ways with horns blowing, marching, and flags flying, a compromise was reached, and the negro agreed to go to work if he were permitted to be his own "boss." The results were unsatisfactory. It was maintained that it was much cheaper to buy corn and meat than to make it, and the farmer staked his all upon cotton. The effect was a constant decline in the productivity of the soil. Cotton requires a clean culture, and clean culture is most favorable to soil deterioration by wastings.

All over the cotton growing regions of Gaston, great gullies are to be seen. The cropping system is responsible for this soil exhaustion. A negro and a raw-boned mule with raw-hide gears and a "scooter" plow with forty acres to scratch over is the most perfect combination for destroying the fertility of the soil that has ever been invented. A renter cares nothing about the soil fertility. He is here this year and may be 50 miles away another year. The outcome of negro freedom was the parceling up of plantations with a negro, a mule and a plow on every plot susceptible of supporting a family. The deterioration of the land, soon came to be a cause for anxiety, following the growing of a single crop requiring close, clean cultivation as cotton. That was a minor loss compared with destruction by "denudation and erosion" following the recklessly careless way of "laying off" the rows on hills and rolling ground by a renter who took no thought of to-morrow, much less of next year.

All that is needed to repair the damage is a return to first principles. What is imperative, is "the abolishment of the negro tenant system," "the abandonment of the advancement way of selling goods by merchants" and "the substitution of intelligent white labor for the thriftless, short-sighted, improvident, incapable black labor." This past year, the merchant was "hard hit," and this year he is limiting the "advance" to a little corn for the mule, flour and bacon, barely enough to keep the negro from starving. Last season the drought curtailed the crop, and some merchants got "cut out" of a part and lost nearly all of their pay for what had been "advanced." The owner is becoming alarmed lest after a few years more of negro renting there will not be enough for his rent. The negro, too, by reason of the meager advancement is beginning to learn a little. He is beginning to learn that being his own "boss" is a bitter thing and an evil, the end of which is for the negro, scanty raiment and short rations year in and year out.

### DECREASE IN CORN ACREAGE.

The Chief Statistician of the

U. S. D. of A. estimates the acreage of corn planted this year at 89,800,000 acres. We give the United States Department of Agriculture's official estimate for the State of North Carolina and States bordering:

North Carolina, acreage last year, 2,706,682, 97%.  
South Carolina, acreage last year, 1,825,837, 98%.  
Georgia, acreage last year, 3,400,331, 101%.  
Tennessee acreage last year, 3,337,047, 96%.  
Virginia, acreage last year, 1,879,848, 97%.

The decrease in corn acreage from last year is four million two hundred thousand acres. Last year the corn acreage was 94,043,613. This year's acreage estimated is 89,843,613 acres.

### GASTON CROP REPORT JUNE 18.

Light showers evening of 12th, 4:50 p. m. Crops improving. Cotton healthy. Continued slow growth. Cotton smaller than has been seen at this time of the season for many years. Corn has grown fairly well and has received final cultivation. Early planted in silk and tassell. Sweet potatoes doing well. Field peas doing nicely, some have received first cultivation. Wheat, oats, and rye harvested and under shelter. Peaches continue to rot. Yield of late apples small. Grapes continue to be promising. Laying by cotton beginning. (Gaston crop report to the Statistician, U. S. D. of A.)

### DEEP OR SHALLOW.

Physical Geography says that "the climate of any country is modified by heat, atmosphere and moisture." It naturally follows that plants are affected the same way. A certain amount of each is necessary to bring a plant to perfection. In a dry season a soil may lack in moisture and plants suffer in consequence. If the soil is shallow the lack of moisture will be greater. Naturally we must look to the sub-soil for the deficient moisture. Some resort to the sub-soil plow. This for small areas is all right. The best method for large areas is to under-drain in a systematic way. Our three systemic or systematic rules are:

- 1. PLOW SHALLOW. Plow shallow, because you can get a better crop than by plowing deep in cultivation.
- 2. PLOW SHALLOW, because it is easier on both man and beast.
- 3. Soil will not exhaust itself thereby.

- 1. PLOW DEEP. Plow deep, because you bring up fertility that has sunk deep into the hard pan clay.
- 2. PLOW DEEP, because you bring up the subsoil to the action of frost, thaw and freeze which extracts the fertility there by.
- 3. Soil if not plowed too deep will not exhaust itself thereby.

Brother agriculturists there it is "pro and con" more "pro" than "con."—Republic Farm Dept.

### FARM TOPICS.

The plowing of the land is an ordinary matter to farmers and the most important. The growth of the crop and the yield depend upon the preparation of the soil. The careful preparation of the soil increases the yield. A garden plot will produce more than a field. Plowing under manure is one method of working it in the soil but all farmers do not plow their lands the same depth or turn under their manure in the same manner. If the manure is put under too deep, some time will elapse before the roots of the tender plants get down to it, it will not be very long before the plants and the manure and utilize it, but it is very important that such a crop as corn should get a good start, and the loss of a week at the beginning of plant life may have an injurious effect on the crop should the season come on dry. If the manure is spread on the surface and worked into the soil with a harrow the young plants will be enabled to use the available plant food from the start. Two objects will be accomplished by so doing—first the manure will be made finer—second the fineness of the soil will result in disintegration of the mineraline constituency of the soil. Soil moisture is very important.

### EDITORIAL.

When we enter a farmer's house we like to see a few first class farm papers on the table. It seems to speak well for the intelligence of the family. The farmer cannot afford to get along without taking one or more up-to-date agricultural papers. It is absolutely necessary for his greatest success, but now and then we find a man who does not take a farm paper. He

"don't b'lieve them fellers what prints the agricultural papers knows anything 'bout farmin' no how." The good that the agricultural press has done the farmer cannot be estimated. It has done a great good.

### COMMON AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

"Much has been said in regard to teaching agriculture in the common schools. Efforts are now being made in several parts of the country to make the courses in agriculture in the college real college work. The difficulty in the common schools lies in the fact that the teachers of these schools are women and that women are not prepared to give the instruction."—Practical Farmer. The writer notices that quite a number of the best Gaston farmers' wives and daughters contribute occasionally to "The Practical Farmer" some able articles.

### PRACTICAL FARMING.

No farmer can progress unless he is willing to study and learn. The farmer has kept himself back by his opposition to "theoretical farming," the "book farmer" being to him as one destitute of knowing any thing about farming except to talk or write foolishly in the effort to accomplish an impossibility. Of course all farmers are not alike, for some are progressive and many prefer to wait, and when they become convinced that a change in farming is necessary, will endeavor to improve. Much of the advance made by farmers is due to the theoretical farmer who lead the way.

### WHEAT SCAB.

The fungus disease termed wheat-scab is common in the wheat fields of the Piedmont section of North Carolina, which includes Gaston County. Scab is a disease which attacks wheat heads before they ripen; a portion of the head or sometimes the entire head turns to a light brown and dries up, the kernels wither up and become worthless. At harvest the chaff is affected with a pink fungus or mold. In threshing the majority of the affected kernels are driven off with the chaff—the heavier grains fall into the wheat sack. Flour from such wheat is injurious to health. For scab no remedy is known but to sow a variety not easily affected.

### BUSHES AND BRIARS.

All along the road-sides in Gaston county one sees hedges of bushes and briars which take up room and draw up substance or sustenance from the fertile fields where crops should be cultivated. The removal of these hedges would cost but little and would add greatly to the attractiveness of our farms. In some places the bushes have become trees and the briars a jungle of thorns and spines. The farmer who tills the soil gives "back a little" and his field is a patch in the middle with bushes and briars all around. This matter of hedges is an eye-sore to the farms all over the county and the editor, for one, would like to see the hedges of bushes and briars disappear from our road-sides.

### \$6,000,000 FOR SHARP ANSWER.

San Francisco Gas and Electric Company Has to Buy Sprockels' Rival Plant, Erected for Revenue.

New York Times.

Clara Spreckels has just added \$2,000,000 to his fortune by the sale of the Independent Gas and Electric Company, which he started six years ago to gratify personal enmity. He had just erected a new office building, when, not half a block away, the San Francisco Gas and Electric Company built a big power plant, with a tall chimney, which sent forth smoke and soot day and night. Mr. Spreckels' tenants made bitter complaint, so the owner wrote to President Joseph Crockett, of the gas company, asking that the nuisance be abated. Meeting him soon after at the Pacific Union Club, Mr. Spreckels inquired: "How about that smoke, Joe?"

"This is no place to talk business," said Mr. Crockett, and turned on his heel.

Mr. Spreckels the next day organized the Independent Gas and Electric Company and forced down the price of gas. It dropped from \$2 so 50 cents and power rates were cut accordingly. So Mr. Crockett's company finally had to accept Mr. Spreckels' terms and pay him \$6,000,000 for his plant, which did not cost more than \$2,000,000.



## BIG REDUCTION in price of BLUE FLAME OIL STOVES!



Finding we are overstocked in Blue Flame Oil Stoves, we have cut deep into former prices, and make the following reductions in order to move the goods at once:

- 1 Burner, regular price, \$4.30, now going at \$3.00
- 2 " " " \$7.15, " \$6.00
- 3 " " " \$9.30, " \$8.00
- 2 " High Cabinets, \$7.85, " \$6.70
- 3 " " " \$10.10, " \$7.30

These are positive reductions and mean an actual saving of money to quick purchasers. Come at once and get the benefit.

## Long Brothers, GASTONIA, N. C.

## VACATION

Means more, if you take a KODAK with you, whether to the mountains or to the seashore. You will have not only all the joys that others have, but pictures besides—pictures of cherished hobbies and all the scenes that most appeal to one : : : :  
Our line of Kodaks and supplies has never been more complete. : : :

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Expert Watch Repairing. Artistic Engraving.

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to buy your Vehicles. We have on hand now almost any grade one may call for. Your doors are always open during the day and we are always glad to have our friends call and see us and permit us to show them our stock of goods. Our prices are always made satisfactory with our customers. We still have in our stable some fine and nice SADDLES and BRIDLES BONES that we are going to sell.

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