

THE POLK COUNTY NEWS.

JOHN CARNEGIE, PUBLISHER.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year, \$1.00
Six Months,50
Three Months,25
One Month,10

ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

PHONE No. 2.

THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1904.

For The Cotton-Grower.

The Southern Farm Magazine, of Baltimore, in a double-leaded editorial in its July issue says:

For many years the vast financial interests in Europe and the North interested in cotton-manufacturing, as well as most of the cotton speculators in New York, have combined to beat down the price of cotton, having no interest in the welfare of the South and no concern as to whether Southern producers became impoverished by low prices or not. These "bear" speculators, whether they simply be the "bear" operators on the cotton exchanges of New York and Europe or the "bear" manufacturers who could make more money out of low-price than out of high-price cotton, have used every power at their command to create the impression throughout the world that the high prices of the last 12 months have been unjustified, claiming that they were due to gambling operations of Mr. Sully and his associates. Even Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural Department went out of his way last summer to denounce as gamblers the operators who were fighting for higher-price cotton for the South, leading spinners not to buy until prices were hammered down. When by the combined influence of these great operators, who are the worst gamblers that have ever cursed the cotton trade, Mr. Sully was whipped out, they won a victory against the South which has already resulted in a movement for still lower prices. The Department at Washington seem to be working somewhat in sympathy with the "bear" gamblers in trying to convince the public that Europe is going to become independent of the South for its cotton and the papers of all sections are flooded with false reports about that situation. The fact that mills in New England and in Europe have had to close by reason of an actual shortage of cotton in the world's supply is held up as an illustration of the disastrous effects of the "bull" movement in throwing operatives out of employment. Great care is taken to avoid telling the actual fact, namely, that mills are closed because cotton cannot be had, the supply being practically exhausted, and equal care is used to avoid pointing out the fact that while some thousands of operatives have been thrown out of work for a few months by reason of the closing of mills, on the other hand, high-price cotton brought millions of cotton-growers out of poverty into comparative prosperity. The tremendous fight made by Sully, W. P. Brown, Frank Hayne and others last summer and fall against the combined influence of the United States Department of Agriculture and cotton "bear" gamblers in mill managers and speculators against high prices forced the price to a point where the farmers got the benefit of the advance early in the season, and gave to the producers of the South \$660,000,000 for last year's crop, against \$325,000,000 for the crop of 1898, the largest ever produced.

Today the same tactics are being used as heretofore to break down the price of cotton. Every effort is being made to create the impression of an enormous crop, simply because of a larger acreage. The uncertainties of the weather, the lack of sufficient labor to properly cultivate a large acreage, and the still greater lack of labor in picking a large crop are ignored, and already reports are being sent broadcast of a possible crop of 14,000,000 bales. This is all done for the purpose of breaking down prices during the summer

in order that the mills and the gambling operators on the "bear" side may be enabled to buy the new crop at a low price early in the season, that they, and not the farmers, may reap the benefit of any advance later on.

Mr. Sully represented an idea which has waked the South to its possibilities, and though he has been temporarily downed by the combination against him, the Southern Farm Magazine believes that he will again become a powerful factor in other fields of activity in which equally as much can be accomplished for the good of the Southern farmers.

The Southern Farm Magazine is in the fight for the Southern cotton-grower. It invites from its readers throughout the cotton section of the South correspondence bearing on every phase of the cotton industry, such as conditions affecting the crop, labor, seed and soil deterioration, and everything else which would throw a light upon cotton—today the dominant subject of discussion in the business world.

Opportunities South.

Southern Field for July has the following editorial on the opportunities in the South:

More people of the North have gone into the South the past year than ever before for the purpose of locating and for making investments. More farms have been purchased by farmers from the States North of the Potomac and Ohio rivers, more factories have been erected in which Northern capital has been invested, more Northern money has gone into timber and mineral lands in the South. All this has come about from the increasing knowledge of opportunities and advantages to be found in the Southern States, and especially in those States reached by the lines of the Southern Railway system, and the careful investigation of these opportunities and a comparison of them with those existing in other sections of the country. Notwithstanding the millions of money which have been invested in Southern lands and Southern factories and mines the past year and in recent years, there is abundant opportunity for vastly greater investments. Lands in many sections have advanced in value and in price, but not nearly to such figures as have been reached by vastly less productive lands in other States. They still present the finest chances for investments, while for locations for the homeseeker they are absolutely superior in every way to lands of similar price elsewhere.

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- Look around you.
- You see railroads, banks, mines, farms, factories, stores.
- All took money to start.
- And that money grew.
- Plant a little of your savings—to grow.
- But, first think, examine, investigate.
- Then—plant.
- If rightly planted, it will grow.
- Plant it where it will grow safe, sure, rapidly.
- Seek safety first.
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Columbus, N. C.

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Who lets his country die, lets all things die,
And all things dying, curse him."

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