

Cotton Conditions

Throughout the Cotton Belt, as Viewed by President Smith of the State Association, Who is Just Back from a Tour of the West—He is Convinced that Crop is Less than Ten Million Bales.

"I am just back from a tour of the West, where I have been in the interest of the Southern Cotton Association to meet the executive committee of the Texas division. In Atlanta I was joined by President Jordan, and we went together via Vicksburg and Shreveport. This carried us through Mississippi, Louisiana and a part of Texas. Throughout Mississippi the cotton crop is certainly as short as, or shorter, than has been reported. The frost and worm, so far as our observation went, have completely destroyed all prospect of anything like a crop from the late cotton or top crop of the old cotton.

"From Vicksburg to Shreveport, between which two points is the Delta of the Mississippi and Red rivers, and unquestionably the finest cotton lands of the world, there will not be made more than forty-five to fifty per cent of last year's yield.

"Near Monroe, La. where is the very cream of the Delta, there is practically no cotton at all. Thousands of acres have been abandoned and thousands have been only partially tended, with a net result that the Louisiana crop is practically a failure.

At Shreveport, where we missed connection and had to lie over for six hours, we had an opportunity of interviewing cotton men and business men, and they confirmed the impression that we had received from our own observation. From Shreveport to Dallas we went through a portion of the best cotton lands of Texas, and the same condition obtained throughout this portion of the State.

"At Dallas the State fair was in progress and there were present representatives of every county in the State, and the members of the executive committee were present. The facts, as stated by these different parties was to the effect that in the eastern, central and northern portions of Texas, the crop was from 30 to 35 per cent short of last year. In Western Texas, where the boll weevil is most numerous, his ravages have not been so great this year, and as a consequence the Western Texas crop is as good as, or better than last year's, but it must be understood that this means a restricted area, and the production per acre does not exceed more than one half crop this year as compared with the same territory without the weevil. I think it would be a conservative estimate to place the shortage in Texas alone at one million, two hundred thousand bales.

"From Texas we returned via Texarkana and Memphis. This took us through the entire State of Arkansas, where we had ample opportunity of seeing the crop in

that State, and practically the same per cent of shortage was evident. The frost in Arkansas seems to have been more destructive than in any other State, with the exception possibly of Northern Georgia. From my observation of the crop in every State, for I have visited all save Florida, the estimate issued by the Southern Cotton Association making the crop for this year nine million, four hundred and forty four thousand bales as given, (which does not include, of course, linters,) a conservative one.

"Certainly we have succeeded at last in convincing the world of the shortness of this crop; hence the price fixed at Asheville has been reached. I do not feel that I have the right to advise the farmers to hold beyond this price, but it is my opinion that we will see much higher prices in the immediate future, and, though 11 cents should be reached, it will not be wisdom on the part of the farmers to attempt to rush the cotton to market, for the reason that it might have a tendency to depress prices temporarily. I think that those who will hold their cotton and market it slowly from now on will be amply rewarded as those who have loyally stood for the 11 cents minimum.

"I congratulate the State and the South on its winning another victory. Surely by this time every one will recognize the work accomplished by the Southern Cotton Association, and will be willing to give it their support.

She—No, I do not think you would make me a good husband.

He—Ah, but I'm sure you'd make me one. Please try.—Boston Globe.

STRAYED.

ESTRAYED MULE—On Wednesday, 1st, in Chester, a small light bay mare mule, stripes across shoulders and down the back; is foolish about ears when being bridled. Suitable reward will be paid for her return to the undersigned, or Jos. Wylie & Co., Chester, Tillman McCullough, Heath, S. C. Care of A. D. Jones.

Town Property for Sale.

The following lots in the town of Lancaster, S. C., belonging to the estate of the late Mrs. Julia A. Taylor will be sold at public auction at Lancaster court house the first Monday in December next, to-wit:

The vacant lot corner of Chestnut Avenue and Market street, lying West of L. G. Lazenby's residence, containing 3 acres—lot capable of division into several desirable buildings.

A so lot, with commodious, 2-story dwelling thereon, south of Lancaster & Chester Ry. depot, formerly occupied by Col. H. G. McIlwain.

A perfect, guaranteed title will be given purchaser or purchasers. The heirs of Mrs. Taylor being all of age will join in execution of titles.

WALTER S. TAYLOR,
MRS. H. G. McILWAIN,
MISS JULIA A. TAYLOR,
J. BURROUGHS TAYLOR,
Heirs of MRS. JULIA A. TAYLOR.

Notice to all Persons Indebted to the Lancaster Mercantile Co.

As you well know, we made some business changes the first of last year, and it is absolutely necessary that we must collect all past due notes and accounts in order to settle with the late members of our concern; therefore, we now ask our friends, whom we have been so liberal with, to now make arrangements at once to pay us. All past due notes and accounts not settled promptly will be placed in the hands of our lawyer for collection. Yours truly,

8t Lancaster Mercantile Co.

List of Bargains for November

FOR THIS MONTH we expect to make prices that will draw the crowds. Our sales for last month were the largest of any one month since we came to Lancaster, and we expect to make this one greater. The secret of our success is buying our goods at the right price, and in doing so that enables us to make a close price. Join the crowd and meet me at Cloud's to do your shopping—THE STORE WHERE MONEY TALKS.

Silks

We have just received by express another lot of those 36-inch two-tone Taffetas, in all the season's best colors, and to interest you in Silks we are going to make the price, the yard . . . **89c**

Dress Goods

This has been a strong line with us, and we are still after your dress goods trade with some prices that we know will catch you.

10 pieces 54-inch all wool Broad Cloths, cannot be matched anywhere for less than \$1.00 the yard, our price to catch you is 75 cents the yard.

10 pieces 54-inch all wool Broad Cloths, worth \$1.25 the yard, for this month we make the price 92 1-2 cents the yard.

3 pieces 50-inch Brilliantine, in blue, red, and black, very high lustre, worth 75 cts., for this month's sale we will make the price 49 cents the yard.

4 pieces 40-inch Suiting, formerly sold for 50 cents, for this month we will just cut the price in half and make the price 25 cents the yard.

5 pieces 56-inch Suiting, worth on any market 75 cents the yard, our special price for this sale will be 49 cents the yard.

Cotton Goods

We are offering great bargains in this line. Good standard Calicoes, for this sale 3 7-8 cents.

Good Outings, for this sale 4 3-4 cents. 10 cents Flanelets, this sale 8 cents. 10 cents Percales, this sale 8 cents.

8 cents Outings, this sale 6 1-4 cents. 12 1-2 cents Canton Flannel, this sale 9c. 10 cents Canton Flannel, this sale 7 1-2c.

6 cents checked Homespun, this sale 4 1-2 cents.

8c. Checked Homespun, this sale 6 cts. 10c. Bedtick, this sale 7 1-2 cents. 6 cents Ginghams, this sale 4 3-4 cents.

Ladies and Misses Jackets

We are doing a tremendous business in this line. We are showing the latest cuts and prices from \$2.50 to \$12.000.

Blankets

10-4 Cotton Blankets, worth 75 cts., this sale 48 cents.

11-4 Cotton Blankets, can't be matched anywhere for less than \$1.50, our price \$1.00 the pair.

10 and 11-4 wool Blankets any price you want from \$2.50 to \$6.00 pair.

The Store Where
Money Talks

E. E. CLOUD

COTTON MILL STORE COMPANY

COTTON MILL STORE CO.

COMFORTS

AND

BLANKETS

COTTON MILL STORE COMPANY

COTTON MILL STORE COMPANY