

In Order To Reduce Stock By JANUARY FIRST

WE ARE OFFERING SOME
GREAT BARGAINS IN ALL
DEPARTMENTS OF OUR
STORE.

HERE ARE A FEW OF THEM

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Men's \$5.00 Suits \$3.00

" 7.00 " 4.00

" 10.00 " 7.50

Boy's Suits for 50 cents.

Men's 6.00 Overcoats 4.00.

We can certainly save you
money on anything you want to
buy.

Be sure and come to see us.

RESPECTFULLY.

Lancaster Mercantile Co

Happenings in the State.

As Chronicled by the Alert Correspondents of The Columbia State.

DIED OF HIS WOUNDS.

Darlington, Jan 8.—Mr. J. N. Melton, who was several weeks ago shot by his son-in-law, Robert Clements, died Wednesday. Coroner Clanton held an inquest in the afternoon and the verdict gives the wound inflicted as the cause of death. Clements was arrested and is now in jail awaiting trial.

DROPPED DEAD AT DILLON.

Dillon, Jan 7.—Neil Arnett, a prosperous farmer of the Graddys mill neighborhood drove into Dillon today about 1 o'clock, put his team up at Wiggins' stable, took a seat by the stove in the office and asked for an orange which he began to eat. In a short time, without a second's warning, he fell over and when examined by a physician who was called at once he was dead.

Mr. Arnett had, it is said, been drinking for several days.

DIED FROM A BULLET WOUND.

Cheraw, Jan. 7.—Another deplorable accident occurred here this afternoon. W. C. Traywick was accidentally shot and killed. Traywick works for the Chesterfield Lumber company. He left their office near the Coast Line depot to inspect some timber about one-fourth of a mile towards the river. He was absent about one hour, when he was seen returning.

He motioned for help. On going towards him he fell and was unable to articulate. In about five minutes he died. On examination, a bullet hole in his breast was found. As yet no one knows how he was shot or who did it, though it is supposed to have been accidental.

An inquest will be held as soon as the coroner arrives.

Traywick was about 40 years old and leaves a wife. He was well thought of by his acquaintances.

Hester's Weekly Statement.

New Orleans, Jan 6.—Secretary Hester's weekly cotton statement issued today, shows for the six days of January a decrease under last year of 58,000 and a decrease under the same period year before last of 33,600.

For the 128 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is ahead of the same days of last year 1,024,000, and ahead of the same days year before last 1,250,000.

The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 281,562 bales against 323,287 for the same seven days last year, and 309,104 year before last.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far for the new crop, the supply to date is 8,371,765 against 7,354,044 for the same period last year.

Stop It.

A neglected cough or cold may lead to serious bronchial or lung troubles. Don't take chances when Foley's Honey and Tar affords perfect security from serious effects of a cold. Sold by Funderburk Pharmacy.

To Cotton Producers.

As you firmly hold the cotton now in your possession, determine and prepare to cut down the cotton acreage for 1905. Reduction of cotton production at this time is the keynote to success. Upon the acreage we plant this spring will largely determine the price of cotton we now hold and that we expect to make in 1905. Make a short crop and get rich. Produce abundantly, and financially ruin the south. Better shut down the mills than to shut down thousands of farms.

As you decrease your cotton acreage, increase your food supply crops. Upon an intelligent solution of this problem will depend the future success of our people. Make your farms self sustaining and whip your emancipation from the dominion of the commercial world and the gambler of Wall street.

Let no supply merchant run you, but from this day forth begin to prepare to be your own master. Learn to market your cotton slowly and thereby regulate the supply to meet the legitimate demand of the mills. Keep the mills actively in the market buying supplies and take the business of control out of the hands of speculation. If money is needed, borrow it from your local banks and break up the iniquitous time business.

No farmer can make money and pay a supply merchant 50 per cent for supplies to farm with. The fertilizer people are fully organized and all firms charge a uniform price for their goods. But if the farmers refuse to buy at present, prices will go down later.

The situation is simply this, the farmers cannot afford to pay high prices for guano, mules and plantation supplies generally in 1905. The farmers must proceed to organize in each county and prepare to buy together, buying as little as possible. Now is the time for economy. Buy guano only for cash or cotton notes. Make no promises to pay for guano in money. Make your cotton notes on a basis of ten cents per pound. The cotton is worth it. You cannot afford to raise it for less. The fertilizer people might just as well carry part of the risk as to undertake to force it all on you. This one-sided business of eternally putting all the burdens on the farmers is wrong. It ought to be stopped. The fertilizer people are entitled to a profit on their goods. So are the farmers entitled to a profit on the products they produce. The price of the supplies we need can't stay where they are, as if cotton was selling for 12 cents per pound. We will be forced to hold our cotton and reduce the cotton acreage and the expense of making the crop. I therefore urge all farmers to make no trades for their guano at this time. Wait thirty or sixty days and get together on the demand for a reduction in prices of what is wanted. Buy the acid phosphate, meal and kanit and mix your own goods at home. These are perilous times. Don't be in too big a hurry to make debts for 1905 or heavy expense accounts.

Harvie Jordan.

CASITORIA.
Bears the Signature of
—Subscribe to The Ledger.

The Matter With Farmers.

The trouble with the farmer is that he does not put in time enough. He begins in the spring and rushes in his cotton and corn, cultivates until laying by time, when he has nothing more to do, while there is enough hard work to keep him busy twelve months of the year. There are weeds and brush that ought to be cut, fences to build and repair, and the wood pile needs to be replenished. And then there are the roads. Great scott! The roads some farmers travel are an abomination, when a week's concerted and concentrated effort on the part of the farmers of a neighborhood would put nearly any road in good shape. But the farmer is a strange animal. He will not work on the road if he can help it and when he has to he does more cursing than work.

What enhances the value of a farm more than a good road leading to it? But I think the farmer is beginning to see the light and when he does he will wonder why he remained in darkness so long.

Another trouble with the farmer is, he has too much land. He forgets the fact that a small farm well tilled is a better one than a large one not half worked. I am a believer in intensive farming. We should keep something growing on our land all the time; and the most of the farmers do, but the main crop is weeds. I believe by crop rotation, and a proper cultivation, we can keep up our land and make it yield much more than it does now. We ought to keep more stock, but before we rush in and get the stock, we should make sure of something to feed it on.—Southern Cultivator.

Evacuation of Port Arthur Completed.

Port Arthur, Jan. 6.—The Russian garrison at Port Arthur today marched out of the city, which was at once occupied by the Japanese forces, under General Nogi. Only eight of the Russian officers have given their parole. The remainder will remain as prisoners of war. They will probably be sent to Japan shortly.

Brothers Badly Lacerated.

Bristol, Va., Jan. 7.—A special to The Herald from Butler, Tenn, says Clayton Donnelly and his brother, Jeff, were blown almost to pieces today by the explosion of a stick of dynamite which they were attempting to ignite for the purpose of killing fish in Wautaga river. Both men are alive but there is no chance of their recovery. The eyes of both were blown out, their faces terribly lacerated and both of Clayton Donnelly's hands are missing.

Crum at Last Confirmed.

Washington, Jan. 6.—The nomination of W. D. Crum, to be collector for the port of Charleston, S. C., was confirmed by the Senate in executive session to-day by a vote of 38 to 17. Crum has been nominated by the President three times, and in addition to these nominations has received three recess appointments, and is now serving under the last of these. Confirmation was opposed by Senator Tillman, who objected to the appointment of a negro.