

THE PEOPLE.

VOL. I. NO. 1.

CAMDEN, S. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1904.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

SEVENTEEN CENTS COTTON AT LAST.

First Time Price Has Gone so High in Twenty-nine Years.

MARKET DISPLAYED FIRMNESS.

The Advance Reaches the Stage Where the Past Records Are Being Carefully Examined.

Speculation in the cotton market carried May and July cotton options above 17 a pound on the local market today for the first time in 29 years.

Cotton has not passed 17 cents a pound in New York since 1875, when it went to 17-1/8. It touched 18-7/8 in 1874; 21 3-8 in 1873 and 27 3-8 in the year of wild speculation, 1872, when the crop, as against 4,347,000 bales in the previous season, turned out only 2,274,000. The high price of war times, when the south was blockaded, was \$1.00 per pound in 1864.

The rise in today's market was scored in spite of heavier receipts and the failure of the southern spot market (save New Orleans) to advance.

There was the same wild and overburdened market here as on Saturday. Brokers despaired of executing their orders according to book. There was intense confusion and an enormous volume of trading. The market opened excited and higher. Notwithstanding the sensational advances of Saturday Liverpool again cabled higher prices than expected, and the opening here was strong at an advance of 6 to 20 points, carrying July through the 17-cent mark and making new high records of the season.

Following the call the market advanced still further though in a somewhat irregular fashion.

Notwithstanding the heavier receipts indicated for tomorrow, the market after reaching to within a few points of the opening figures, was rallied again chiefly as a result of aggressive buying by New Orleans and was soon selling at a level still higher than that of the early morning. March in the late trading sold at 17.04, May at 17.46 and July at 17.55, a net gain of nearly a cent and a half a pound. Trading was active on the second advance, including continued buying for the account of spot people, who were believed to be covering hedges and for public accounts. The close was firm at nearly the best with the more active months 47 to 82 points higher.

Russia is Prepared for War.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 1.—In spite of the expressed hope of the Russian authorities that the present crisis will be passed and that a pacific solution of the Russo-Japanese negotiations will be reached, it is no longer concealed that Russia is practically prepared for eventualities. Today the mobilization of the Manchurian reserves was announced.

Dispatches from Vladivostok announce that 50,000 men are expected there this month, to strengthen the garrison, while orders for the mobilization of all the reserves in all the territories of the far east are shortly expected.

Preparations are making for the mobilization of all the horses liable to government requisition.

It has been well known for months that Russia has been steadily strengthening her army and navy in the far east, to meet the preparations which Japan was openly making. The available warships were dispatched to the far east and the last division, which left the Mediterranean a month ago, is now nearing its destination. Quietly, but surely, it was necessary that Russia's preparations should keep pace with those of her diplomatic adversary. The feverish activity of Japan during the last few weeks naturally increased the distrust of her ultimate intentions and the Russian authorities have been pushing their precautionary measures with more vigor. It is understood that six or seven military trains daily have been going east over the Siberian road.

The authorities now feel that the situation is secure should Japan reject Russia's proposition.

The draft of Russia's reply probably will be submitted to the czar tomorrow. The Associated Press is assured that it will be pacific and should lead to a settlement. The Associated Press' informant reiterated what he said a few days ago: "We have conceded much already and we are ready to concede more, but some things we cannot grant. From our standpoint the Manchurian question was settled by Russia's circular note to the powers recognizing all the Chinese treaties. Why should Japan demand more than the other powers?"

Smoke White Knight cigars. For sale at the Camden Drug Company.

Hester's Weekly Statement.

New Orleans, Jan. 29.—Secretary Hester's weekly statement of cotton issued today shows for the 29 days of January a decrease under last year of 150,000 bales, and a decrease under the same period year before last of 231,000 bales. For the 151 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is ahead of same days of last year 52,000, and ahead of same days year before last 7,000. The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 198,121 bales, against 264,924 for the same days last year and 259,193 year before last.

The movement since Sept. 1 shows receipts at all United States ports of 5,960,270 against 5,745,856 last year; overland across the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers to northern mills and Canada 592,425 against 781,125 last year; interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of commercial year 231,086 against 379,022 last year, and southern mill takings 1,037,000 against 995,072 last year.

The total movement since Sept. 1 is 7,912,691 against 7,890,575 last year and 7,933,619 year before last.

Foreign exports for the week have been 144,740 against 219,624 last year, making the total thus far for the season 4,503,360 against 4,312,136 last year making the total thus far for the season 4,503,360 against 4,352,136 last year.

The total takings of American mills, north and south and Canada for the season thus far have been 2,437,711 against 2,357,803 last year.

Stocks at the seaboard and the leading southern interior centers have decreased during the week 71,512 bales against a decrease during the corresponding period last season of 79,667.

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 8,110,600, against 8,105,619 for the same period last year.

Wonderful Woman.

The case of the United States against Mrs. Helen Williams Post and others, charged with fraudulent mails, was taken up this morning in the United States Circuit Court for the Northern District of Florida. The entire day was consumed in the selection of a jury, Court adjourning when this work was completed and the case opened.

In stating his case, District Attorney Stripling stated that the defendant claimed that through her mental treatment she could cure people of poverty; that she could enable women to marry men of their choice; that she could make hair grow on bald heads; that she could cure persons of the habit of gambling, or enable them to win, and that she could remedy all undesirable conditions.

In selecting the jury, one of the questions asked was: "Do you not believe it possible for one person to cure another of disease by mental treatment?"

When this question was answered negatively, the defense moved to excuse juror for cause, but on his stating this would not prevent his giving a fair trial, Court overruled the objection.

There are many expert witnesses here to testify on each side. The case will last all the week.

Wings of the Wind.

On the ocean beach at Orman, Fla., three days ago W. Vanderbilt, Jr., drove his 90-horse power automobile one mile in 39 seconds. Five stop watches took the time. This was nearly one second faster than the time made on ice by Henry Ford some time ago, and is several seconds lower than any European record.

It is marvelous that a ponderous machine, without the use of rails, should be able to attain a speed that a steam engine cannot equal on the heaviest steel rails and the most scientifically constructed roadbed. The fact that such annihilators of distance as these high power automobiles cannot be utilized by the public and are not practicable on traveled roads detracts very greatly from public appreciation of their performances. They are now but playthings for the very rich.

If Mr. Vanderbilt had maintained that speed for one hour he would have traveled a fraction of over 92 miles; he was going just three times faster than the average "express" train in this section travels. He was going twice as fast as does the mallard duck in its flight; our common dove in flying to roost is perhaps the fastest of our native birds, except the "blue darter" hawk, but a dove would have been left far behind in a race with Vanderbilt's car. Only the little green winged teal, that is disdainful of the best marksman, could have passed the

scorcher. Had any person desired to pepper young Vanderbilt with shot as he passed along the Orman beach, and fired directly at him from the side at a distance of 45 yards the automobilist would have been perfectly safe—the shot would have passed 10 or 12 feet behind the rider. It is evident therefore that such red devils have no place on our country roads.

Agricultural Experiment Stations.

Ex-Senator M. C. Butler writes in commendation of the bill for agricultural experiment stations in the counties, and says:

I have read in the newspapers that Mr. Deschamps has introduced in the Legislature, or prepared a bill for that purpose, to establish agricultural experiment stations in the several counties of the State. I trust he will permit me to commend the measure as one calculated to be of more service to the farmers than anything in that line suggested for years. These county stations will operate as educational institutions and object lessons to every man who desires to avail himself of them; where the one station located in a remote corner of the State is inaccessible except to those in the immediate vicinity. I do not pretend to be familiar with the details of the proposition, but the idea is a good one.

If the Legislature will pass such a measure, dispose of the State farms and distribute the convicts to the respective coun-

ties in a condition of gross darkness, which the school boy defined to be "one hundred and forty-four times darker than common darkness." This condition was due to the insufficiency of the single dynamo to furnish arc and incandescent lights at the same time. All this has been remedied, and Chester now becomes a "city set upon a hill which cannot be hid." This new machine is from the works of the General Electric Company, with head offices at Schenectady, N. Y. Each dynamo has a capacity of 1,500 lights. So Chester is in it in the matter of lights. The use of the lights is being gradually extended.

Just So.

The following article, written by B. J. Beardsley, of the Princeville Telephone, to newspaperdom, contains some excellent ideas on the ever-interesting topic of how to make a country weekly successful:

"My brother and I are chumps enough to publish a seven-column quarto at \$1.00 a year. We send out over 1,800 of them every week. No one need rise up and say we ought to get \$1.50 a year. We know it. Our competitor is a six-column quarto at \$1.00. Four papers within fifteen miles on the dollar basis, and we are all of us rivals in some part of the territory. If these friends will not join us in putting up the price, what are we to do?"

The above clipping pretty ac-



"The People's" First Subscriber.

The above half tone accurately represents the handsome features of our first subscriber, Mr. W. L. Jones, of Lugoff, S. C. The slight appearance of baldness shown in the photo is not really baldness, but brain. We have been informed that Mr. Jones rode forty miles, more or less, in order to secure this coveted position on our subscription list, and it is with pleasure that we present him to our readers.

ties for employment on the public highways, and abolish that object of special abomination, the State grog shop, it will have earned and will deserve the well done of the entire constituency. I would add one other piece of legislation: Restore the office of commissioner of agriculture and immigration, an office that ought never to have been abolished. M. C. BUTLER.

Father and Daughter Dead.

Mrs. Meade, wife of Rev. W. N. Meade, rector of Grace Episcopal church, died this morning after ten days illness. Her death is made doubly sad from the fact that her father, Capt. J. B. Allston, of Bodwell, Abbeville county, died at the rectory Friday night. Capt. Allston and his wife came to Anderson the first part of last week to visit their daughter, who was then very ill. On Friday night Capt. Allston complained of feeling badly, and retired, and in a short time expired. Heart failure was the cause of his death. Mrs. Meade was at that time so low that she was not told of her father's death, and she died without learning the sad news. She leaves no children. The remains will be shipped to Virginia, Mrs. Meade's former home, for interment.

More Light in Chester.

The installing of a second dynamo at the electric light power house is hailed by everybody with delight. The lights under the new dispensation have been turned on. For three months our streets for the most part have been

curately represents the position of "The People" in the matter of the price of subscription. Happily, we have not this cause of contention with our contemporaries, as they thoroughly appreciate the fact that a paper such as we publish is worth \$1.50 per annum, and charge it. The blank paper alone is worth almost the money, and when we take into account the matter we publish, it will be a matter of surprise to us if we don't have people running over each other within a month to advance our subscription to \$2.00 per annum.

Negro Exposition Seeks Big Money.

Representative Lamb, of Virginia, introduced a bill the other day appropriating \$1,200,000 to the Negro Development and Exposition Company of the United States of America, incorporated under the laws of Virginia. One million dollars is to enable a creditable exposition to be made by this company at the Jamestown exposition, to be held in 1907, and \$200,000 is to pay bounties and arrears of pay due estates of deceased negro soldiers of the Civil war.

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