

Progression of Weevils.
 In all this talk about expedi-
 taries for helping the farmers in
 the cotton belt to kill the boll
 weevil—government help that,
 we believe, is never extended to
 northern farmers when their
 crops are menaced—it is strange
 that not one congressman has
 hit upon the cause of the trou-
 ble. The weevil multiplies be-
 cause the birds that would other-
 wise consume it are being killed
 off. Here is a proposition to
 spend large sums of federal
 money to help the men who have
 been killing their best friends.
 Last year the ravages of the
 boll weevil in Texas amounted to
 \$15,000,000. Did the gains com-
 pensate for that? Will the pro-
 fits of all the feather workers in
 the world amend for the loss to
 be inflicted on the cotton grow-
 ers in our southern tier, if the
 weevil increases his pasturage?
 If so, and the whole cotton belt
 suffers as Texas has suffered, it
 is estimated that the loss will
 equal a quarter of a billion an-
 nually.

The man who kills the bird
 that has been eating the grubs
 and beetles in his orchards and
 plantations, because he can con-
 vert the bird's skin into mer-
 chandises worth a few cents,
 brings upon himself the means
 of failure and deserves that fail-
 ure when it comes, for the warn-
 ings he has received have been
 plentiful. The women, who are
 responsible for the enormous
 slaughter of our songsters, be-
 cause they wanted their dead
 bodies to wear in hats, are real-
 izing the necessity for reform in
 the matter, and among the think-
 ing members of the sex the fash-
 ion of bird wearing has gone
 out. There are, however, thou-
 sands of the ignorant and ill
 bred who advertise their vulgari-
 ty by the wearing of dead ani-
 mals upon their clothing, and so
 long as the want exists there
 will be found men base enough
 to supply it, though the cost is
 a high one. Take the shotgun
 away from the southerner for
 a few seasons, and we shall hear
 less of weevils and less of ap-
 propriations.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Principles of Buddhism.

Buddhism is very different, al-
 though Buddha lived and died a
 Hindu, and the members of that
 sect still claim that he was the
 greatest, wisest and the best of
 Hindus. But no two religions
 are so contradictory and incom-
 patible as that taught by Budd-
 ha and the modern teachings of
 the Brahmins. The underlying
 principles of Buddha's faith are
 love, charity, and spiritual and
 physical purity. He believed in
 some of the present practices of
 the Hindu priests.

There is a striking resem-
 blance between the teachings of
 Buddha and the teachings of
 Christ. You will find passages
 in the New Testament, reporting
 the words of the Savior, that
 seem like plagiarism from the
 maxims of Buddha, and, indeed,
 Buddhist scholars often tell of a
 myth concerning a young Jew
 who came from Syria with a car-
 avan and spent several years
 under instruction in a Buddhist
 monastery in Tibet. Thus they
 account for the silence of the
 scriptures concerning the doings
 of Christ between the age of 12
 and 20, and for the similarity be-
 tween his sermons and those
 preached by the founder of their
 religion.

Buddha taught that good ac-
 tions brought happiness and bad
 actions misery; that selfishness
 is the cause of sin, sorrow and
 suffering, and that the abolition
 of self, sacrifices for others and
 the suppression of passion and
 desires is the only true plan of
 salvation.

He died 548 years before Jesus
 was born, and within the next
 two centuries his teachings were
 accepted by two thirds of the
 people of India, but by the tenth
 century of our era they had been
 forgotten, and a great transfor-
 mation had taken place among

the Indo-Aryan races, who be-
 gan to worship demons instead
 of angels, and teach fear instead
 of hope, until now there are
 practically no Buddhists in In-
 dia with the exception of the
 Burmese, who are almost unani-
 mous in the confession of that
 faith. It is a singular phenom-
 enon that Buddhism should so
 disappear from the land of its
 birth, although 450,000,000 of
 the human race still turn to its
 founder with pure affection as
 the wisest of teachers and the
 noblest of ideals.—W. E. Ourtis
 in Chicago Record-Herald.

An Immense Japanese Stone.

We rode to the citadel, one of
 the strongest and most elabo-
 rately built fortifications that I
 ever saw, and it must be one of
 the finest in the world. The solid
 stone embankments were fifty or
 sixty feet high, and miles in ex-
 tent, surrounding the interior
 fort. The moats were approxi-
 mately a hundred feet wide and
 very deep, and the gates and ap-
 proaches were massive in the
 extreme. On the hill, as we
 went up to the highest point, I
 saw an immense stone which
 formed part of the wall. I was
 so struck with its immense size
 that I measured its length with
 my pocket rule. It was thirty-
 six and a half feet long. I could
 not measure its height, but the
 officer of the guard told me
 through my interpreter that it
 was twenty-seven feet high and
 twenty feet thick. I have since
 been told by a master quarryman
 that if the measurements were
 correct (and I know I was cor-
 rect in the measurement of the
 length) this mass of granite was
 twice as heavy as the Egyptian
 obelisk in Central Park, and yet
 the Japanese engineers had
 moved it from a great distance
 and had carried it up a high hill
 and set it in a wall built of
 stones, all of which were so large
 that this, while it was striking
 for size, did not seem phenom-
 enal. The Japanese are doll-like
 in their teapots and houses, but
 giants in their tree culture and
 fortifications.—Osaka Letter.

HESTER'S WEEKLY STATEMENT.

**Heavy Decrease in the March Movement
 As Compared to Previous Years.
 The Figures.**

New Orleans, March 11.—Sec-
 retary Hester's weekly cotton
 statement issued to-day shows
 for the 11 days of March a de-
 crease of last year of 98,000, and
 a decrease under the same pe-
 riod of year before last of 69,000.

For the six months and 11 days
 of the season that have elapsed
 the aggregate is behind the six
 months and 11 days of last year
 245,000, and behind the same
 days year before last 156,000.

The amount brought into sight
 during the past week has been
 108,657 bales, against 183,108 for
 the same days last year, and
 181,087 year before last.

The movement since Septem-
 ber 1st shows receipts at all
 United States ports to be 6,528,-
 124, against 6,770,575 last year.
 Overland across the Mississippi;
 Ohio and Potomac rivers to
 northern mills and Canada,
 784,758 against 899,290 last year.
 Interior stocks in excess of those
 held at the close of the commer-
 cial year, 231,968, against 198,095
 last year. Southern mill takings,
 1,287,000, against 1,264,359 last
 year.

The total movement since Sep-
 tember 1st is 8,861,965, against
 9,122,319 last year.

Foreign exports for the week
 have been 44,318, against 184,186
 last year, making the total thus
 far for the season 5,038,832,
 against 5,898,137 last year. The
 total taking of American mills,
 north, south, and Canada, thus
 far for the season have been
 3,111,681 against 2,980,877 last
 year.

Stocks at the seaboard and the
 20 leading southern centres have
 decreased during the week 33,862
 bales, against a decrease during
 the corresponding period last
 season of 97,169.

Including stocks left over at
 ports and interior towns from
 the last crop and the number of
 bales brought into sight thus far
 from the new crop, the supply
 to date is 9,049,664, against 9,-
 387,398 for the same period last
 year.

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