

ALLIANCE DEPARTMENT.

J. F. NISBET Editor.

Messrs. W. G. A. Porter, R. M. Kirk and J. R. Knight attended the Farmers Convention in Columbia, and they express themselves as having enjoyed it very much. We hope to have a full report of the meeting from them.

The Cotton Growers Association which met in Columbia last Wednesday night was a grand success. All the counties in the State were represented except four. A plan was inaugurated to organize each county and township in the State. We want the plan fully understood, and then we want every farmer to become a member of the Association.

A Call Meeting of the Cotton Growers of Lancaster County.

To the Cotton Growers of Lancaster county, S. C. By virtue of authority granted me by the State Cotton Growers' Convention held at Columbia, S. C., I call a convention of all the cotton growers of Lancaster county to meet at the court house on the 22nd inst. at 11 o'clock a. m. The object of the meeting will be made known on day of meeting.

J. R. KNIGHT,
Primus, S. C., Nov. 15, 1897.

THE SHADOW OF DEFEAT.

A Gold Standard Advocate Sees Victory For Silver Forces.

Matthew Marshall, a recognized authority on financial affairs, and a strong advocate of the gold standard, in his weekly financial article in the New York Sun, says:

What all clear-sighted observers suspected and feared has become a certainty. The victory of the gold standard in 1896 has shown itself to have been indecisive not only in form but also in number of votes by which it was achieved. Not till the last moment, indeed, did the Republican leaders consent in 1896 to admit the mention of gold in party platform, and they explicitly avowed their willingness to accept silver as a monetary standard jointly with gold, provided the other commercial nations of the world would do the same. Fortunately the Democrats came out squarely for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without the aid or consent of any other nation and thus forced the voters to choose between the immediate adoption of the free silver standard and a future adoption of it under hypothetical conditions.

By what strenuous efforts the immediate free coinage of silver, at the ratio of 16 to 1, was defeated in 1896, will be remembered by all, and the close vote of 7,100,000 against it to 6,500,000 for is a matter of record. That the silverites were fully justified by the result in continuing their fight, Tuesday's election also prove. New York city has, by an enormous majority, declared itself at least indifferent in the controversy, whereas a year ago it voted by almost as large a majority against silver. New York state has, though less decisively also exhibited a change in its temper. Ohio, which a year ago went overwhelmingly against the silver candidate, is this year doubtful, and a my possibly send a silver Senator to Washington next March. Kentucky has declared for the silver cause after repudiating it in 1896, and what was the leading anti-silver newspaper in the state, the Louisville Courier-Journal, has been compelled, by the loss of readers, to abandon its hostility to silver, and announces that it will support the Democratic platform without reserve. Nebraska, Bryan's state, maintains the position it took in his behalf last year, and so do all the Western states which then gave him majorities. In fact, the aggregate popular vote cast on Tuesday is nearly as large for silver as that in the same territory was against it in 1896. No wonder, then, that Mr. Bryan exults and confidently predicts success for silver in 1900.

How many votes were gained for the Republican candidate in 1896 by the express promise of the party to maintain the gold standard, only until an interna-

tional bimetallic agreement could be obtained, and by the obligation it apparently assumed to accept silver as soon as the effort to reach an agreement definitely failed, it is impossible to say, but their number must have been considerable. Now that the event in view has happened, and Europe, under the lead of Great Britain, has refused to make the agreement to the promotion of which the St. Louis convention pledged itself, the Republicans must come out equivocally, either for silver or for gold, and if, as is most probable, they come out for gold, the question whether the majority of voters will sustain them in doing so is one which will be answered, if not by the elections of 1898, then by those of 1900.

Something Worth Thinking About.

A. H. Wherry, of Lewis, (Chester county) came to town with his wagon to get supplies. The lien? No, no. He came loaded with—what do you suppose? The articles and their proportions were significant, one lone bale of cotton and about ten bales of peavine hay.

He got his cotton cut and started. He carried his sample around and asked the buyers what they would give for it. They bid by fractions of a cent, till he finally closed at 5¢.

He went back to his wagon to find that several persons had stopped to enquire what he would take for his hay. They didn't "cut" it or "bid" on it; they only asked, what he would take for it? He named his price and got it.

Ten to one is good; some insist on "sixteen to one," and we are not sure that they are wrong. We do feel sure, however, that either ratio, if applied in the right order to hay, grain and the like on the one hand and cotton on the other, will bring better results than any financial scheme that can be devised by the government, good and important as the scheme may be.—Chester Lantern.

THE ALLIANCE EXCHANGE.

Its Relation to the Cotton Plant.

We do not think it can be a question of any doubt the Cotton Plant or some similar paper or means of communications is the most important single medium of usefulness that the Alliance and the State Exchange can have. For the Exchange to meet with any measure of success it is absolutely necessary that we have some direct communication with the individual farmer. On the other hand, in this day of combinations and organizations, a trust being formed first on one commodity and then on another, with the current markets of the country changing, varying almost daily, the consumer, who has no source of information as to the values is simply lost when he goes upon the market. What we will have to say this week about the detail work of the Exchange will be in connection with the use we have made and expect to continue to make of the Cotton Plant.

To begin with, we hope the paper is through with its iteacy and that it is permanently located. Could we have had our choice we would have preferred it printed at Columbia, the capitol and centre of the State; as we could not have done, we have the next best thing. In 1890 when the Alliance was on its boom, when there was 33,000 members of the subordinate Alliances, the Cotton Plant had 7,500 subscribers and was printed at Greenville, S. C., by Hoyt & Keys.

It has been around the State, from Greenville to Orangeburg, then to Columbia, thence to Spartanburg, to Union and to Laurens, and now back to Greenville. I think we might paraphrase on the parable and say the lean calf has come home, but it don't seem like anything can kill the prodigal. Well, the Cotton Plant is back at Greenville in the hands of Col. Hoyt. He tells us he is going to give us a first class, Alliance and agricultural paper, up-to-date in all things, and that he will do all in his power to reorganize the Alliance from the

mountains to the seaboard. Will you do your part?

In the Cotton Plant each week we will send you a current price list of the best wholesale prices we can get of all the leading articles that are used on our farms. We may not have all things in each issue, but from time to time some articles may be left out for want of space which you will find in another issue. As each season appears we will give the preference to such articles as are used at that time. Because at times your local dealer may not only meet our prices or even give you a better figure, you must not conclude that your Exchange is in error or a failure. Your friend may be your friend, or he may have a very sinister motive in cutting prices. The Cotton Plant must be to the Alliance what the church papers are to the churches. What would they be or what would they accomplish without their papers. So it is with our organization. We must have a paper devoted entirely to agriculture and the farmers' exclusive interests. Now, for us to succeed, you must subscribe for the paper, and thus furnish us with the means to print you a worthy publication.

We are aware that you have good grounds for complaint, about how you have been treated in the past about your subscription to the paper. You have paid your money for it, and have received only a few copies. We shall try to make this good to you as far as possible, but we (the publishing committee) have been treated just as badly as you have suffered. But now we do want to say, let by-gones be by-gones; we have got the old Cotton Plant back home again. You must take it, send in your subscriptions, it is going to go this time; therefore help us make it a paper worthy of the farmers of the State. We are going to do our part as to the Exchange side of the work.

Subscribe for the Cotton Plant and if there is any agricultural or Alliance news in your neighborhood, send it to the Cotton Plant. D. P. DUNCAN, Manager.

Getting Ready for Next Year's Crops.

In a recent number of Farming World, Mr. Edwin R. Towie, an esteemed contributor to The Progressive Farmer, gives the people the benefit of his observations and experience in the following timely article:

It is of much importance that the farmer should, as far as possible, be in readiness to put the seed in the ground at the most favorable opportunity. This may mean very much in the results at harvest time. To do this the best possible preparation should be made the preceding autumn and during the winter.

The basis of all good and successful farming is in the plowing. If this is done in the best manner the rest of the work will be comparatively easy, but if it is performed in a haphazard way, the work of pulverizing the soil and cultivating the crops may be increased two or three fold. It will pay therefore to have this work done in the most thorough manner, even at the expense of more time and labor, for too much haste will most assuredly mean a corresponding waste in the end.

If the land to be plowed is stoney or contains other obstructions, they should as far as possible be first removed, as satisfactory work cannot be performed without this. These obstructions once removed are out of the way for good, and it will pay to be at some expense to secure this.

Next as to the plowing. First have a plow that is adapted to the work that is to be done, as no one implement, however perfect it may be, will alike answer for all kinds of soils and conditions. Knowing what is wanted, there should be little difficulty in finding the best implement for the purpose. This is the first thing: Then to know how to properly adjust the plow, harness and whiplines, so as to run easily, evenly and smoothly, is another. There is very much in all of this as the experienced plowman knows. And the intelligent farmer should

seek to master the requirements and be able to adapt his requirements to all conditions of work.

And then it requires some intelligence and practice to become a skillful plowman, and no farmer should be content with anything less. Especially should farmers' so as to become adepts in this manly art, it will be fully as dignified and quite as profitable in the end as some of the sports now so freely engaged in. With modern equipments this should not be a difficult matter.

Where the conditions favor it should be the aim to do all of the plowing possible during the fall, as this will accelerate by so much the work of another spring, and permit of the seed being done at the earliest practicable opportunity which is often of the greatest advantage.

With the deeply pulverizing harrow now at command, a second spring plowing will not now often be found necessary. With clay soils it may be the better way to plow as late in the fall as it can well be done, in order that the ameliorating action of the frosts may exert a more beneficial effect on this kind of land.

The practice of drawing and spreading the manure during the late fall and winter is becoming quite common in many parts of the country, and where this is to be harrowed in of course it is necessary that the land should be first plowed. And this is another great help in forwarding the work of another spring.

Where, as is sometimes the case, it is desirable to plow the manure under, this work will have to be delayed until spring. In this and perhaps other ways, can the work of preparing for another year's crops be forwarded during the autumn months.

Gin House Burned.

The gin house belonging to Messrs. Martin Cauthen and J. T. L. Stover was burned last Friday night. Besides the building and machinery, Mr. Cauthen lost ten bales of seed cotton, two bales of ginned cotton, and about six hundred bushels of seed, and Mr. Stover six bales of seed cotton and over two hundred bushels of seed. Then Mr. Henry Wright lost a bale of cotton and about one hundred bushels of seed, and Mr. Henry Carter, Green Cauthen and Hamp Mitchell half a bale each. The total loss was at least \$1500. No insurance.

The fire was discovered at about a quarter past eight by a colored woman living near, who raised the alarm. Mr. Cauthen was the first one there and saved several bales of cotton lying near the burning building—all belonging to patrons of the gin, while his own cotton lying there was burned. Next day something over a bale of the cotton that was in the gin house was watered out and saved.

How the fire originated is not known for certain, but it must have been of incendiary origin. That is the only way one can account for it. There had been no fire in the engine in thirty five hours, so it could not have caught from that. The fire broke out in the lint room. W. C. C. Oakhurst, S. C. November 15, 1897.

Order of the Golden Chain Organized.

On Tuesday night, Nov. 9th the Red Rose Lodge, Order of the Golden Chain, was organized at this place with a membership of 18. The following officers were elected:

Com.—T. S. Carter.
V. Com.—Dr. Jas. E. Poore.
A. Com.—W. M. Moore.
P. Com.—Thos. H. Fairchild.
Prel.—D. P. Hardin.
Sec. and Collector.—A. J. Clark.
Treas.—J. B. Mackorell.
Guide—R. A. Billings.
Guardian.—W. S. Langley.
Sent.—Jno. F. Fairchild, Jr.

Fits Cured

From U.S. Journal of Medicine Prof. W. H. Feeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease, which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferers who may send their P. O. and Express address. We advise any one wishing a cure to address Prof. W. H. FEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York

Shot Himself.

The sad news reached here late Tuesday night, Nov. 9th, that Mr. John Cauthen of Heath Spring, had shot himself. The shooting occurred about 10 o'clock. Mr. Cauthen had been talking to some friends on the street about fifteen minutes before the pistol shot was heard, which ended his life, and attracted a crowd to the vicinity of the depot. His body was found lying near the Railroad track, a pistol clinched in his right hand and a hole in his head where the pistol ball had ploughed through his brain.

Coroner Young was notified and went down Wednesday and held an inquest over his body, and the verdict of the jury was in accordance with the above stated facts.

The deceased was a son of Mr. John M. Cauthen, of Heath Springs. He was about 34 years of age. His remains were interred at the Bruce grave yard at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, after funeral services conducted by Rev. J. S. Croxton. No reason can be given for his rash act.

An Unfortunate Affair.

Mr. J. P. Plyler, of the Dwight neighborhood, had a difficulty at his home last Tuesday afternoon with his sons. Messrs. Hush and Pinckney Plyler, aged respectively about 18 and 20 years, in which the father was seriously shot near the temple by his son Hush, after he had shot the latter in the thigh. Several shots were exchanged but no others took effect. Dr. Elliott cut the ball from the young man's thigh but was unable to find the ball which took effect in Mr. Plyler's head. It is a very unfortunate affair and is to be regretted. Mr. Plyler's wound may turn out to be quite serious.—Saturday's Ledger.

The gold standard received a blow from the voters of Lancashire, in England, and a hard one in a number of states in this country during the past week. This result leaves the impression that the evil wind created by the inter-national bimetallic commission has blown some good to the silver cause.

MY NEW CATALOGUES

ARE NOW READY.

and I have the prettiest and best Organs Made in America at prices within the reach of any man who takes quality into consideration. The Best is the CHEAPEST, and while I have the BEST I have put prices on a very reasonable basis and so sure as you see my organs and hear my prices so sure will you buy one if your purpose is to buy.

REMEMBER,

every organ is GUARANTEED for 5 years. All freights paid with Stool and Instruction book FREE.

R. J. HERNDON,
Yorkville, S. C.