

COTTON GROWERS IN CONVENTION.

March up the Row, and Then They March Back Again—No Effective Action Taken.

Atlanta, Dec. 14.—When the convention of the Southern Cotton Growers met in the ball room of the Kimball house at noon today, nearly three hundred delegates answered to the roll call. They represented the foremost planters of the fleecy staple of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Texas and other Southern States. The meeting was called to order by Mr. J. C. Wilborn, the president of the South Carolina association. The first business taken up by the convention was the election of temporary officers. The following were unanimously chosen: J. C. Wilborn of South Carolina, president; S. E. Watson of Texas, vice-president; Robert Cheatham, editor of the Memphis Cotton Journal, secretary.

The delegates will form what is to be known as the Inter-Cotton State Cotton Growers' Association. The object of the association will be to have repealed the present mortgage, lien, etc., laws under which they contend that the southern farmers have been subjected to abject poverty. They will also devise some means to greatly mitigate the speculation in cotton, which is now indulged in so freely by the southern as well as the northern people. They say that the speculators practically gobble up the entire crop before its production and that low prices is the result. The southern farmer will be advised to reduce their cotton acreage and raise more food crops.

By unanimous action at the night session the cotton growers decided in favor of reduced acreage, against trusts and speculation in cotton, endorsed the meeting of the American Cotton Growers' association in Memphis next week, decided in favor of complete organization in every county and State in the south, self sustaining farms and information bureaus.

The following organization was perfected: Hon. J. C. Wilborn, South Carolina, president; vice-president, S. E. Watson, Texas; and Richard Cheatham, Memphis, secretary. A committee of six was appointed to attend the Memphis convention Monday. After three busy sessions the convention adjourned to-night at 11:30 o'clock.

MASONIC GRAND LODGE.

Officers Elected and Installed for the Coming Year.

Charleston, S. C., Dec. 15.—The most worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons of South Carolina was closed, in ample form, at 2 o'clock this afternoon, until the next annual communication.

During to-day's session the following grand officers were elected and installed: Jacob T. Barron, Columbia, grand master; Bartlett J. Witherspoon, Lancaster, deputy grand master; Orlando Sheppard, Edgefield, senior grand warden; Walter M. Whitehead, Charleston, junior grand warden; Zimmerman Davis, Charleston, grand treasurer; Chas. Inglesby, Charleston, grand secretary; Byron Holly, Greenville, grand chaplain.

The following appointments were announced in grand lodge.

A. H. Doty, of Charleston and John C. Watkins, of Anderson,

"Rust,"

the dread of the cotton grower, can be prevented. Trials at Experiment Stations and the experience of leading growers prove positively that

Kainit

is the only remedy.

We will be glad to send, free of charge, interesting and useful pamphlets which treat of the matter in detail.

GERMAN KALI WORKS,
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senior grand deacons; E. C. Secrest, Lancaster, and W. A. Holman, of Barnwell, junior grand deacons; C. P. Quattlebaum, of Conway, grand marshal; L. W. Nettles, of Forrester, grand purveyor; J. L. Michel, of Darlington, and S. E. Moore, of Hartsville, grand stewards; W. A. Winkler, of Charleston, grand tiler.

A Scene of Gaiety Culminates in a Terrible Tragedy at a Social Gathering.

Macon, Ga., Dec. 15.—A special to the Telegraph from Jeffersonville says: The citizens of this place were startled late last night by a fusillade of pistol shots at the residence of R. L. Califf, the screaming of women aroused the town, and the whole population gathered about the scene of the shooting, when it was discovered that three men were lying dead on the parlor floor and a woman and girl fatally shot.

Mr. Califf and his wife had invited a number of friends to their home to spend the evening in a social entertainment. The parlor was a scene of gaiety, young folks dancing and singing alternately, and amusement was at its height, when Shaw Griffin, a young man under the influence of liquor, became too offensive in his manner toward the young ladies. Mr. Califf remonstrated with him and advised him to go home. This enraged Griffin, and he drew his pistol and began to rave and make threats against his host. Califf, knowing Griffin to be a dangerous man, prepared himself and ordered the offender to leave the house. This made matters worse. Griffin began to fight. He drew his pistol, and just as he raised it, Califf was ready for a battle, and

The Firing Began.

Seven shots were exchanged, both principals dropping dead, and Clarence Jones, a young man, was also killed, the three men falling within a radius of seven feet.

As soon as the first shot rang out, the young ladies began to flee for their lives, and before the room was cleared two of them were fatally wounded. Califf fired three shots, all of which took effect—one striking Griffin in the right temple and two in the breast. Griffin fired four times. One shot entered Califf's breast, killing him instantly, another struck Clarence Jones in the head, and death ensued an hour later. Mrs. Califf was shot in the abdomen and her seven-year-old daughter in the neck.

When the firing had commenced the young people began to flee from danger, many of them getting into buggies and driving away.

During the present year there was almost a similar occurrence

here, when Newby and Defore fell in a street duel. Just before that, two negroes were taken from jail and lynched, and a few years ago Mrs. Nobles and Gus Fambles committed a most horrible murder, for which they are now under sentence of death.

A BIG SALE.

A Thousand Bales of Cotton at the Penitentiary.

As instructed by the board of directors of the penitentiary, the authorities will offer for sale one thousand bales of cotton. The cotton is now being sampled, and the samples will be placed for examination in the office at the penitentiary. All who are interested can examine the samples at the penitentiary office Monday morning. The sale will take place Wednesday morning.

The authorities do not care to sell any more at this time, but can offer the thousand bales in a lot. It is likely that there will be some lively bidding for the cotton. It was hoped that the cotton would bring a better price than is now prevalent, but the board thought it best to let the cotton go at this time.

A large portion of the money received from the cotton to be sold Wednesday will go into the state treasury to the credit of the of the general fund.—Register.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local treatment, pronouncing it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Mutton Sheep Now Most Profitable.

Jenna's Payne, Wisconsin, in the American Agriculturist.

There is no fear of the sheep business being overdone. Latest statistics show that there are about 800,000 sheep in Wisconsin, while some of our neighboring States not nearly as well adapted to sheep raising are carrying many more. Nearly every farm in the State has its dry, sunny hillside, sheltered with a strong belt of natural timber, while below it lies the beautiful fertile valley with pure water, where sheep may be fed and fitted for market.

Happily for the future of the industry, as the price of the wool has gone down, the consumption of mutton has increased. Consumers are finding out that mutton is freest from disease and the most nutritious and healthful of all animal foods. Careful experiments have established the fact that a pound of mutton can be produced at less cost than flesh of any other kind. While wool is lower than ever before, it is an established fact, and one that should stimulate the sheep owner, that prime mutton is now selling for more money than either beef or pork, and its consumption is increasing much faster than the growth of population. Sheep owners then should not be discouraged but must realize that in the future mutton must be the chief end and aim of their business, and while they should not wholly ignore the growth of wool, must remember that light, bright fleeces are in demand. Look upon wool as a product certainly worth something, but make mutton growing the main object.

What did the farmers of England do when the duty was removed? They said, "We will devote our attention to the growing of mutton sheep. Our Australian children can produce wool so much cheaper than we that we will let them do it, but they cannot complete with us in growing

mutton nor can any people, unless they employ our methods, that is, produce mutton breeds and then feed them on rich succulent food. Americans do not relish the labor of growing roots, and corn will not produce the kind of mutton we are afraid of, so we need look for no competition there." The most popular English sheep in Wisconsin are the Shropshires.

The quality of the sheep of the State has been greatly improved as well as the number increased. In 1840 the State contained 3,462 sheep, and the average wool clip was 1.95 lbs. per head. Fifty years later, or in 1890, there were 809,000 sheep while the yield of wool averaged 5.86 lbs. per head. With the increase of mutton breeds has come a change, a decided improvement in the care and feed. The Merinos would eat weeds and live as no other animal will, but to be successful with mutton sheep more attention and better feed became necessary. This is now being given. The flocks are not so large, and more grain is fed. There is a tendency to the English system both of care and feed, and latterly rape has been used to a limited extent with much success. The raiser of mutton sheep as a rule makes less complaint of depression in prices than any other person engaged in general farming or stock raising. Prices have been low and discouraging. But there has not been a time when a well cared for flock would not yield wool enough to pay for its keeping, thus leaving the lambs as clear profit, with the additional profit of fattening the ewes and selling them at a fair advance on their cost. Mutton and not wool is the prime object of sheep raisers.

THEIR WELCOME TO BRYAN.

Cordial Reception in the City of Mexico.

Mexico, Dec. 15.—President Diaz to-day accorded an audience to Mr. Bryan and party. The ladies were charmed with Mrs. Diaz, who speaks English perfectly, and showed them the presidential apartments in the castle of Chapultepec.

Mr. Bryan has been a busy man to-day, having visited the Cathedral and the Academy of Fine Arts. He was especially pleased with the great paintings of the valley of Mexico. Then Mr. Bryan had his hair cut, giving him a youthful appearance.

To-morrow President Raoul of the Mexican National railway, gives him a dinner and the party will visit the famous and magnificent church at Villa de Guadalupe enshrining the miraculous image of the Virgin.

On Friday night he will have a popular reception in the historic school of mines, an immense edifice where Gen. Grant was lodged on his first journey to this country. The government granted the use of the building as being the most appropriate as thousands of Mexican people of all classes desire to greet the champion of silver.

In the course of Mr. Bryan's speech in the chamber of deputies to-day he made a remark which has excited much favorable comment.

"I might suggest another reason for the interest which I feel in the Mexican republic. Mexico, as well as the United States, is interested in the defense of the Monroe doctrine which was promulgated for the purpose of preventing the extension of monarchial institutions upon the western hemisphere. The United States and Mexico will hold up the torch of freedom before the nations of the world and prove that the governments derive their just powers from the consent of the government and not from the rights of hereditary power."

The newspapers all publish articles eulogistic of Mr. Bryan and bid him welcome to Mexico. He is being interviewed by reporters of all the leading journals and is cordially greeted and applauded wherever he goes. One journal calls him the heroic and popular young tribune of the American people.

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