

Beech Island Planters' Club—The Re-opening of the Slave Trade.

Mr. Editor:—You are aware of the existence of a somewhat distinguished Planters' Club in South Carolina, whose Club House is on Beech Island, at which the members of the association meet, on the first Saturday of every month, for the discussion of agricultural subjects, and to enjoy a good social dinner. Sharing in the proverbial hospitality of this Club, and having been interested in its debates of the question, "How will the re-opening of the African slave trade affect the price of cotton in the South?" It occurs to me that some account of the same will be acceptable to your readers.

By previous appointment, Mr. William Gregg opened the discussion. Mr. G. is too well known, as an able and sound man, for any to doubt that his speech on the occasion, against the bringing of more negroes from Africa, was instructive and worth hearing. He showed the absurdity of attempting by this means to equalize the population or political power between the South and the North. He explained in what way he thought the re-opening of the slave trade would affect the price of cotton, and also seriously depreciated the market value of slaves to the prejudice of all that own them.

Senator Hammond followed in a speech of greater length, on the same subject of the question. He spoke with much more confidence, earnestness, and indulged pretty freely in epithets and rhetoric. He said that the slave trade agitation is calculated to strengthen the anti-slavery feeling and political power at the North, and elect a man President whose policy and administration would be such as to send the Southern States to the African slave trade issues. The consummation of this scheme would reduce the price of negroes to two hundred dollars a head, and cotton to four cents a pound.

Dr. Bradford spoke in reply to the North and in the name of the members of the Beech Island Planters' Club. He called attention to the rude and limited agriculture of the aborigines of this continent to the planters who succeeded them, and felt that their mission was to till the best, clear, and fertile soil with the narrow bull tongue and scythe until its humus was consumed by continued cropping, and the land exhausted for planting purposes. This system of tillage requires little labor for the surface gone over, as it makes no requisition on the strength of the farmer's arm, and the scouring planter has emigrated West in pursuit of fresh lands there follows a class of cultivators who wisely unite planting and farming industry, and manure all the ground they cultivate.

Their system is more thoughtful and civilized, and by feeding the land and plowing deep involves the necessity of having to the one hundred acres than is needed in the wearing out practice by planters who regard dung heaps as a nuisance. As the speaker did not wish to see the soil of South Carolina wholly exhausted, and the State deserted, and inasmuch as a supply of farm laborers cannot be had from any other source he was in favor of bringing in more slaves from Africa, and an underground rail road used for transporting stolen negroes from the South to Canada, and it was but natural that there should be opened a sub-marine rail road to make good the loss by bringing slaves from Africa to the South.

Other gentlemen addressed the Club, but nothing of interest was elicited. After the adjournment for dinner. Unlike many Military and Fire Companies, Lodges and other Associations, this Agricultural Club treats its members with nothing stronger than pure spring water cooled with ice—a practice highly commendable.

The meeting was abundant and every way satisfactory. After its discussion, the meeting was called to order, and Dr. Lee invited to express his views on the subject under consideration. He commenced by calling attention to the remarks of Mr. Edmund Ruffin, who had just addressed the Club. After he had finished at Richmond, Mr. Ruffin, he said, was the author of an able work on Calceolus Manures, published some thirty years ago; and became so distinguished for his study and practice of improved agriculture, and for his writings on the subject, that South Carolina sent him to the agricultural survey of the State. In the Planter for August, 1859, Mr. R. says: "At the present high prices of slaves, no one can afford to make new and complete agricultural improvements. No such case has occurred, within my knowledge, for the last two years. There are many cases of already established and successful farmers who, needing more slaves than they are free owned, buy a few more to supply great deficiencies of labor, and prevent great losses."

"But even such men as these do not, and cannot profitably buy half so many slaves, as they greatly need for their labor, as it would be to buy at the present high prices. Evidently the general home want for labor is greater than would be supplied by all the natural increase of our slaves. It is the home demand for our slaves which we say that the annual draft and exportation of slaves make our increase in Virginia by production. This loss must continually increase with the potency of the produce causes, and with increasing rapidity; and sooner or later the operation must remove 50 many slaves as necessarily to destroy the institution of negro slavery."

Quite recently, said Dr. L., the annual increase of slaves, by births, in all the border slave States, was greater than the number sold into the cotton growing States added to the loss by absconding to the North. Now, however, the case is not so. The loss is not only as great as the gain; and is rapidly augmenting while laboring population, accompanied by a decrease of slaves, will soon, as we are told, be reduced to a number less than the number of slaves who are sold into the cotton growing States. It is this very condition which the *Advertiser* has persistently kept in view in all it has said of Senator Douglas's views on this subject. It is in this very condition which the *Advertiser* has persistently kept in view in all it has said of Senator Douglas's views on this subject.

Religious. We are requested to announce that the Rev. L. R. Gwaltney will preach at Pine Pleasant on Monday after the first Sunday in October, next, if not provisionally prevented; and may continue the meeting for several days.

Pelletier & Co. The notice of the advertisement of Messrs. PELLETIER & CO. Mr. PELLETIER, an excellent Druggist, and a young man of good taste and judgment, has recently returned from New York with a most valuable and complete stock of Drugs, Medicines, Oils, Paints, &c. Whilst their stock of Perfumery, Pomades, Soaps, Brushes, Fancy articles, &c., challenge comparison. We know what we say, because we have looked through this assortment; and would advise ladies and gentlemen visiting Hamburg to give this House a trial before crossing the River.

European News.

The Steamship "Ocean Queen" has arrived with Liverpool dates to the 31st August. There are no features of unusual interest reported by this arrival. Nothing of importance was known in regard to the proceedings of the Zurich Conference. The sale of cotton for the three days previous to the leaving of the "Ocean Queen" was 23,000 bales, of which speculators took 5,500 bales, and exporters 2,500 bales. The market was firm, and generally closed with an advancing tendency. The quotations were for Middling Orleans 7 1/4-16d, and for Middling Uplands 6 1/2-16d. Breadstuffs were dull; and provisions had a declining tendency.

Consuls were quoted at 954 @ 552. By the "Europa" which leaves Liverpool intelligence to the 27th ult., we gather the following news of general importance. Sardinia refused to receive, even conditionally, the emigration of the Duchies, without consulting other powers, particularly France. The Italians maintain a firm attitude in regard to their national independence. The harvest was almost completed. The London *Advertiser's* Paris correspondent says: The French Minister of Marine has ordered fifty transports capable of containing one hundred thousand troops, to rendezvous opposite Dover by the first of the ensuing year; and the correspondent further says, that the fact has been telegraphed to the English government.

The Assembly at Modena have confirmed the Dictatorship of Farini. The Savannah (Ga.) *Republican*, of Sept. 9th, alluding to our Charleston contemporary, says: "The proprietors of this venerable and excellent paper, give notice that they will issue it in another new type, and will be another and faster press to their supply of machinery, in order to get off their large circulation in time for the mails. The *Charleston* has distinguished herself by taking pleasure in adding that it deserves it."

We take particular pleasure in endorsing the most valuable paper to this popular and most able paper. The *Courier*, here as elsewhere, stands high as a reliable commercial journal, and is always sought after as medium through which to obtain the latest and most interesting intelligence. The *Courier* merits great success, and we are glad to know it receiving its due to a most liberal extent.

Miscellaneous Items. It is understood at Washington, that our government will make no compromise in regard to the Island of San Juan, believing it unequivocally the property of the United States. Advice from Arizona have been received at St. Louis, that state that Sonora and Chihuahua, are about to declare their independence—General Piquera at their head. There has been a large amount of ammunition and arms lately received, and the army has been increased to three thousand.

From the 6th of July to the 1st instant, 9922 dogs and 387 puppies (quadruplets) were killed officially in New York at the cost of \$8,256. The London *Field* says it calculated that Mr. Ten Broeck is a richer man by £40,000 than he was when he landed on these hospitable shores in 1857.

It is a beautiful custom in some Oriental lands to leave untouched the fruits that are shaken from the trees by the wind; these being regarded as sacred to the poor and the stranger. There are fifteen daily papers, eight semi-weekly, eleven semi-monthly, thirty-nine monthly, and one hundred and eighty weekly, printed in the city of New York.

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The Baptist Association. This body assembled on Saturday last at the Mt. Taber Church in this vicinity. The delegations from the Churches were large. The attendance of the people was full upon Saturday, and immense on the Lord's Day. Rev. J. M. CURTIS presided as Moderator with his accustomed urbanity and discretion. Mr. J. H. M. W. was elected Clerk and discharged the duties of that most efficiently. The most harmonious prevailed in the body, containing as it did much of the best talent and intelligence of Edgely District.

The Baptists may well congratulate themselves upon their power for good in this part of the Great North-Virginia. Their responsibility is commensurate with their scope and influence. That they will meet faithfully under the blessing of Almighty God, and no one can doubt who witnessed the solemnity and earnestness of purpose manifested in the late Association Convention.

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From Kansas.

LEXINGTON, Monday, Sept. 5.—A collision took place between the Republican and Democratic on Saturday night, when both parties were having demonstrations prior to the municipal election to-day. The Republicans held their meeting at the intersection of two streets, and the Democratic torchlight procession attempted to break through into the square, where a general melee ensued, several hundred on both sides, participating in it, using stones, bludgeons, pistols and knives. One man was shot, and five or six severely cut, but it believed none were fatally injured. The Republicans maintained their ground, and proceeded with their meeting. The attack is believed to have been purely accidental, and is universally regretted. There is some apprehension that the disturbances will be renewed to-day, but effective measures have been taken to preserve peace and order.

DOUGLAS AND THE ABOLITIONISTS.—The intelligent Washington correspondent of the *New York Journal of Commerce* expresses the following views. It is manifest that Douglas's prospects are growing desperately hopeless. He is indefatigable at wire-pulling and in the newspapers. But to all who wish public opinion to be on his side, he is, if it becomes manifest that he can never overcome obstacles at the South, and must "dry up" or join the Black Republicans. I have no doubt myself that the nominee will be a Southern man. The selection ought to be made by the people, and not by Congress. North has the Presidency for two terms in succession, but because the South is to furnish most of the electoral votes necessary to the success of the Democratic candidates in 1860.

From what I can learn from the views of influential and considering Democrats, North and South, the party will give a cordial and united support to any one who may be nominated at Charleston. Senator Douglas is no exception to this remark.

A HORRID CRIME.—We are informed that the people of the North-eastern section of our District, known as the "Wild Cat" region, are greatly excited by the consequences of this crime, which is believed to have been perpetrated in that section a few days since, which in point of brutality knows no second, and which is a disgrace to the annals of crime. The victim was a young girl, about thirteen years of age, the daughter of Alvin Massey. She died suddenly on Thursday night, under circumstances plainly indicating that she was poisoned. Suspicion rests upon Dan, a slave of the said Massey, as having administered the poison. His motive for so doing, it is said, was to screen himself from the consequences of an intimacy which had for some time subsisted between the young girl, the daughter of the said Massey, and a young man, the name of which is not in course of nature to be mentioned.

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Seeking the Olive Branch.

"But the olive branch is not for the sake of her leaf." I sometimes dream of a cottage home Far away in the dim Ideal, With wreaths of rosy-bowered shades,— Oh, I wish in my heart it were real.

There are gleams of sunshine along my path, But the "Home, sweet Home," I have never found. Save in dreams that haunt my pillow. If I pitch my tent by a fountain's brink In the shade of the willow's palm, To have my temple cool and my tongue As I muse in the noon-tide calm;

If I plant me a vine on a sunny shore And smile with the hopes I borrow, The finger of Destiny starts my dream And points far away on the morrow.

Then farewell to the Homes of the Tearful Land Where the child winds bleak are blowing, For the Infinite Father giveth a Home In the Land where we are going.

KATE B. T. Sept. 6, 1859.

For the Advertiser. The "Starr Hotel," HAMBURG, Sept. 10th 1859. Mr. Editor:—I was pleased to see that you had given the above-named room and elegant establishment a favorable notice in your issue. Favorable, so far as it went. But, if you could see, and be shown through the "Starr House" now, with all its appointments complete, you would be prepared to speak still more favorably of it.

It has, as you remarked, "been recently renewed, remodelled and thoroughly cleaned from basement to garret." But that is not all: it has been refurnished throughout all its departments with new and splendid furniture, not only sufficient for all the comforts, but many of the elegancies of a well furnished private mansion.

Butcher is not all. The *Star*, that governs and directs, a *Star* of the first magnitude, as a Hotel keeper, at least, is Mrs. E. C. STARR, proprietress. To say she is a *Star* in her world would be a superfluous repetition of what every body says from Maine to New Orleans. The handsome Dining Room, handsomely furnished—the Ladies' Reception Room—Gentlemen's Sitting Room—and the Office, are all on the first floor. The second floor, there is a Ladies' Parlor, which is perfectly refreshing to enter. And, in addition to the bed rooms generally, (which are all well furnished, and as clean, bright and sweet as the trees by the wind; these being regarded as sacred to the poor and the stranger.)

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PREMIUM LIST

FOURTH ANNUAL FAIR OF THE EDGEFIELD DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. To be held at Edgely C. H., Tuesday, the 8th of November, 1859.

Field Crops.—The greatest production of cotton upon one acre of improved plowland by the aid of domestic manure, with mode of cultivation, Best amount and kind of manure used, the preparation of the soil, period of planting, the number of times plowed and hoed, the variety of cotton—the largest and best of the cotton weight and quality, and the mode of ginning, to be exhibited by affidavit; the report to be made to the Secretary and submitted to the Executive Committee by the first of January next. The greatest production of Corn upon one acre of restored upland, the mode of planting, manuring, kind of manure used and variety of corn sown under the same requisitions. The highest yield of wheat upon one acre under the same requisitions.

Best variety of field Peas, not less than 2 bushels. Best variety of Sweet Potatoes, not less than 2 bushels. Best variety of Irish Potatoes, with the mode of Cultivation, &c. Best yield of Hay made in the District. Best Bull of improved breed, 3 years old or more. Best Bull of improved breed, 3 years old or more. Best Bull or Heifer, from 1 to 3 years old. Best Bull or Heifer, from 1 to 3 years old. Best sucking Calf. Best Cow for milking qualities, without regard to blood. Best yield of Cattle not less than five. Best York of Oxen raised in the District. Best Blooded Stallion, Mare or Colt, of any age raised in the District. Best Blooded Mare of any age. Best Colt 3 years old. Best Colt 2 years old. Best Colt 1 year old. Best Bull 1 year old. Best Bull 2 years old. Best Bull 3 years old. Best Bull 4 years old. Best Bull 5 years old. Best Bull 6 years old. Best Bull 7 years old. Best Bull 8 years old. Best Bull 9 years old. Best Bull 10 years old. Best Bull 11 years old. Best Bull 12 years old. Best Bull 13 years old. Best Bull 14 years old. Best Bull 15 years old. Best Bull 16 years old. Best Bull 17 years old. Best Bull 18 years old. Best Bull 19 years old. Best Bull 20 years old. Best Bull 21 years old. Best Bull 22 years old. Best Bull 23 years old. Best Bull 24 years old. Best Bull 25 years old. Best Bull 26 years old. Best Bull 27 years old. Best Bull 28 years old. Best Bull 29 years old. Best Bull 30 years old. Best Bull 31 years old. Best Bull 32 years old. Best Bull 33 years old. Best Bull 34 years old. Best Bull 35 years old. Best Bull 36 years old. Best Bull 37 years old. Best Bull 38 years old. Best Bull 39 years old. Best Bull 40 years old. Best Bull 41 years old. Best Bull 42 years old. Best Bull 43 years old. Best Bull 44 years old. Best Bull 45 years old. Best Bull 46 years old. Best Bull 47 years old. Best Bull 48 years old. Best Bull 49 years old. Best Bull 50 years old. Best Bull 51 years old. Best Bull 52 years old. Best Bull 53 years old. Best Bull 54 years old. Best Bull 55 years old. Best Bull 56 years old. Best Bull 57 years old. Best Bull 58 years old. Best Bull 59 years old. Best Bull 60 years old. Best Bull 61 years old. Best Bull 62 years old. Best Bull 63 years old. Best Bull 64 years old. Best Bull 65 years old. Best Bull 66 years old. Best Bull 67 years old. Best Bull 68 years old. Best Bull 69 years old. Best Bull 70 years old. Best Bull 71 years old. Best Bull 72 years old. Best Bull 73 years old. Best Bull 74 years old. Best Bull 75 years old. Best Bull 76 years old. Best Bull 77 years old. Best Bull 78 years old. Best Bull 79 years old. Best Bull 80 years old. Best Bull 81 years old. Best Bull 82 years old. Best Bull 83 years old. Best Bull 84 years old. Best Bull 85 years old. Best Bull 86 years old. Best Bull 87 years old. Best Bull 88 years old. Best Bull 89 years old. Best Bull 90 years old. Best Bull 91 years old. Best Bull 92 years old. Best Bull 93 years old. Best Bull 94 years old. Best Bull 95 years old. Best Bull 96 years old. Best Bull 97 years old. Best Bull 98 years old. Best Bull 99 years old. Best Bull 100 years old.

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