

## Edgefield Advertiser.

Established 1835.

J. L. MIMS, Editor.

Published every Wednesday in The Advertiser Building at \$2.00 per year in advance.

Entered as second class matter at the postoffice at Edgefield S. C.

No communications will be published unless accompanied by the writer's name.

Card of Thanks, Obituaries, Resolutions and Political Notices published at advertising rates.

Wednesday, October 12.

## Daniel Augustus Tompkins.

No brief sketch can do even partial justice to the manifold activities of Daniel Augustus Tompkins and his work as a builder of the New South. Few men in the United States had a more diversified career or better exemplified in their lives the constructive spirit. Unlike most of the successful men of the South, Mr. Tompkins possessed little of the characteristics of the merchant. He was essentially a pioneer, a man of far-sighted vision who fortunately possessed the talents of an executive and an organizer which enabled him to practicalize his ideas.

He was a successful business man with perhaps just enough failures to his credit to give him a sobering sense of caution and responsibility. He was a man of wealth, but no one in speaking of him laid stress on his accumulations, but rather upon his achievements. It was more in what he did for others in the way of enabling them to help themselves than in what he did for himself that made the life of D. A. Tompkins an example to his community.

A broad outline of his activities is impressive even at a casual glance. He was among the first to recognize the possibilities of the cotton oil industry and make it one of the leading enterprises of the South. He was a builder of cotton mills. He designed and furnished machinery to all manner of industrial plants in his territory. He was a publicist, a journalist, a writer, a promoter of education and a pioneer in the establishment of the South's textile industry.

He did much to instill in the South a spirit of thrift that had become almost a lost virtue among the American people. He strove untiringly for the establishment of building and loan associations in Southern communities. His fine philosophy with respect to the social qualities which make men valuable citizens had much of the flavor of Benjamin Franklin. Never posing as a philanthropist, he was at all times a friend of his fellow men. He did more than help them. He helped them to help themselves. A crowning recognition of his outstanding services was extended through his appointment as a member of the United States Industrial Commission by President McKinley. This body, as is probably well known, was formed to consider the problems presented by the growing complexities of our modern industrial life. The report of this commission presented in nineteen volumes covers a vast field involving almost every phase of America's business activities—industry, agriculture, transportation, labor and kindred questions.

Mr. Tompkins was a product of the old South. He was born on a plantation in Edgefield County, S. C., in 1851, and with the exception of a few years spent as a student at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, N. Y., an apprenticeship served under old John Fritz at the Bethlehem Iron Works in Bethlehem, Pa., and a year in Germany in the introduction of American machinery, his life was passed chiefly in the South until his death in 1917. It probably is not going too far to say that he was then the foremost citizen of Charlotte, N. C.

It was in 1882, after Mr. Tompkins had finished his studies, served his apprenticeship and developed his talents abroad that he settled in Charlotte and hung out his sign as an engineer, machinist and contractor. He obtained the agency for the leading machinery manufactures, and became very active in the building and installation of mills and power plants of various sorts.

The first shining example of the use of vision came in his activities in the building of the South's infant cotton oil industry. He saw its possibilities, and he set to work to realize them. Ever since the invention of Whitney's gin, cotton seed had been the South's most objectionable waste

product, the bane of the planter's life. Mr. Tompkins saw that it was a real economic waste, and for several years his activities were devoted to the building and financing of cotton oil mills. He lived to see the industry one of the most prosperous in the South backed by capital amounting to hundreds of millions, and a product also running into hundreds of millions annually. He not only strove to make the cotton oil business profitable, but he fought to make it clean,



DANIEL AUGUSTUS TOMPKINS

to insist upon a superior product, one that would be highly acceptable to the world as a food.

The larger activities of Mr. Tompkins, if any distinction can be made, probably were devoted to the up-building of the Southern textile industry. Here also he displayed extraordinary breadth of vision and exhibited the practical wisdom of a Franklin. "Help to establish manufactures at home," he said, "and help to get foreign markets and ships to bring back three dollars upwards where we now bring back one."

Mr. Tompkins always felt that the South never would become really great so long as it depended upon most influential newspapers of the country. He was untiring in his work among his fellow men. He was a fine speaker, although making no pretense to florid oratory. His manner in making an address bespoke clarity and force without flamboyant ornamentation. In other words, he had the social qualities of an industrial missionary, and one of his biographers sums up his splendid life in the following words:

"In order to manufacture the entire cotton crop of the South into plain white and coarse colored goods, there would be required something like 30,000,000 spindles and 1,000,000 operatives. The population of the Southern States may be ranked at 20,000,000. Does anybody doubt that out of this who would be willing to work, to furnish 1,000,000 operatives in cotton factories? Go into ordinary cotton market towns where no cotton factories have as yet been built, and at any time from 7 a. m. to 10 p. m. count the people who are loafing, and the number found would more than make up the quota of people for its share of the workers necessary to manufacture the cotton crop."

Again he says: "Practically all native people in the South are farmers. The manufacturing now being done by Southern people furnishes evidence of the facility with which the Southern farmer extends his operations. Almost every Southern man who has gone into manufacturing is still a farmer and will continue to be so. The escape of the cotton farmer from approaching poverty is not in trying to curtail production and increase the price, but in devising means to keep the cheap cotton at home and in utilizing surplus time in turning it into cloth worth eighteen cents and upwards per pound.

D. A. Tompkins did not stop with preaching the gospel of industrial expansion. He did not stop with urging capital to build mills or confine himself to providing the new plants with machinery. He strove with all his might to create a new industrial spirit among his people. He used several agencies in this missionary task. He did all he could to promote liberal education, but the phase of the work that was dearest to his heart was the establishment of trade schools. For more than twenty years he served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and he saw this institution work its way out of the handicap of poverty and discouragement into an agency of tremendous value to the South.

His work did not stop here. He saw

that if the South was ever to develop textile skill that could compare favorably with that possessed by Lancashire, Leel, Chemnitz, Fall River, or New Bedford, it would have to develop not only its own operatives but managerial ability equipped with technical skill and scientific knowledge of a world-old industry. It was with this end in view that he interested himself in the establishment of textile schools. One of the most notable of these is the Clemson Textile

School affiliated with Clemson College in South Carolina. Another result of his efforts was the provision for a textile department in the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. Encouraged by the work and enthusiasm of Mr. Tompkins, the States of Mississippi and Texas followed suit and established textile training schools.

No summary of the life of Mr. Tompkins would be complete without reference to his activities as a journalist and publicist. He was active in shaping the thought and sentiment of the South through the medium of the Charlotte Observer,

most influential newspapers of the country. He was untiring in his work among his fellow men. He was a fine speaker, although making no pretense to florid oratory. His manner in making an address bespoke clarity and force without flamboyant ornamentation. In other words, he had the social qualities of an industrial missionary, and one of his biographers sums up his splendid life in the following words:

He built a New South—of mills and factories, of skilled labor and machinery, or diversified and intensified agriculture, of improved railways and highways, of savings banks and loan associations—a New South also of public schools, technical colleges and expanded universities, of independent journalism and independent thought, a New South of universal education and democracy.—Commerce and Finance.

## The Disaster and the Game.

The professional players of the cotton game, that is the buyers and speculators in cotton, in New York, Liverpool, New Orleans and other cities, apparently are dealing with a crop of 6,500,000 bales in much the same way that they have regarded a crop of 16,500,000 bales. In a word, the Southern cotton crop is their football to scuffle over and kick about, on their own gridiron, and if, occasionally, the bulls make a run for a gain of \$10 a bale that is their affair, from which all players except bulls and bears are excluded. The bear is expected to get a run of \$10 a bale in his turn in the other direction a day or two later.

The bystanders, the rest of the world, are looking on the Southern cotton crop of this year and calling what has happened by its name—a disaster. The people out of the game are saying, and it is true, that not in the history of the cotton industry has a thing so serious come to pass. And they are saying that soon or late wearers of cloth, users of a thousand articles made of cotton and the manufacturers of them will suffer on account of it. Unless all this is true, unless the failure of the Southern crop is a bad dream, somebody obtaining cotton at a low price will make a great deal of money out of it.

It would be much better for the whole world if this money were earned by the products of six and a half million bales than garnered by the gay gentlemen who buy and sell,

who play the game, who have not the faintest understanding that raising cotton under the best auspices, much the less under boll weevil conditions, is much more of a job than a game.

If in the future the world is to have the cotton that it will sorely need it would be wise for the world to encourage the growers to plant it. The good old days, when always there was more than enough cotton to go around, are gone. It looks now that unless the growers shall be both assisted and encouraged their numbers will be tremendously reduced.

If the Southern men who have cotton at this time wish to have a hand in the game, the thing for them to do is not to go into it too strong or too quickly. If they dump their cotton on the market they deliver the controlling trumps into the hands of the professional players.

The terrible poverty of Europe and the destruction of the buying power of war afflicted peoples has been and still is a great factor in the cotton situation, but the drop from a crop of \$16,500,000 bales to 6,500,000 is a greater factor and so it will prove in time.—The State.

## A Patriotic Creed.

I believe  
In my country and her destiny,  
In the great dream of her founders.

In her place among the nations.  
In her ideals.

I believe  
That her democracy must be protected,

Her privileges cherished,  
Her freedom defended.

I believe  
That humbly before the Almighty,  
But proudly before all mankind,

We must safeguard her standards,  
The vision of her Washington,

The martyrdom of her Lincoln,  
With the patriotic ardor

Of the minute men  
And her soldier boys

Of her glorious past.

I believe  
In loyalty to my country,  
Utter, irrevocable, inviolate.

Thou in whose sight  
A thousand years are but as yesterday

And as a watch in the night,  
Help me

In my frailty  
To make real

What I believe.

## NOTICE!

Concordia Lodge No. 50, A. F. M. will hereafter hold its regular communication on the SECOND MONDAY night of each month instead of Friday night as heretofore. All members are kindly requested to observe the change and be present accordingly.

J. H. CANTELOU, W. M.  
Edgefield, S. C., August 1, 1921.

## Notice of Final Discharge.

To All Whom These Presents May Concern:

Whereas, J. Claude Johnson has made application unto this court for Final Discharge as General Guardian in re the Estate of Maud Smith Johnson, his ward this the 28th day of September, 1921,

These Are Therefore, to cite any and all kindred, creditors or parties interested, to show cause before me at Edgefield Court House, South Carolina, on the 28th day of October, 1921, at 11 o'clock a. m., why said order of Discharge should not be granted.

W. T. KINNAIRD,  
J. P., E. C., S. C.

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## Alfalfa Grown in the South.

Alfalfa grows well in a soil in which there is plenty admixture of lime. For that reason the lower part of Richmond, the whole of Burke and portions of Jefferson counties should produce fine alfalfa. There are large deposits of marl near Shell Bluff and Griffin's Landing, both of which are in Burke. These deposits contain sea-shell and the fossiliferous remains of marine animals, in the last stages of decomposition, showing that the lime formed has mingled with the soil. With the principal ingredient supplied naturally by the soil, alfalfa should flourish in Burke and in the contiguous territory of a similar nature.

The farmers of York county, South Carolina, have organized an alfalfa association and are going into it extensively with other cover crops, in consequence of the damage incurred from the depredations of the boll weevil. They have made arrangements

to get their alfalfa seed direct from a Nebraska alfalfa grower. But the demand for the seed is so great that they sometimes are forced to procure the seed nearer home to fill their orders. They are receiving many orders for seed from Georgia and North Carolina.

In addition to the item of seed, much lime has been purchased through the association for liming the soil at a considerable saving to the farmers. Since the organization of the association was formed it has saved the farmers who have affiliated in the co-operative buying plan many thousands of dollars on these two items alone, the saving some years amounting to \$5,000 or \$10,000. The probability is that Burke county farmers and farmers in the adjacent territory would find their land had a sufficient quantity of lime in it, consequently they could avoid the expense of purchasing lime.—Augusta Herald.

**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR**

*The One Big South Carolina Fair*

**GREATEST LIVE STOCK SHOW**  
in the history of the Fair Association. Come and see how others are meeting the boll weevil menace.

**AUTOMOBILE RACES**  
Fast track, well known drivers, speedy cars. Purses amount to \$5,000. Auto races on Friday, 28th.

**HORSE RACING**  
On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Pacing and Trotting races for purses of \$300 each event, with added money. Running Races for purses of \$150, each event, with added money.

**AUTO POLO—SOMETHING NEW**  
Stripped automobiles in exciting polo games. First time ever seen in the South. One exhibit each day between races Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday; also once each evening during fireworks.

**BIG FIREWORKS EVERY NIGHT**  
On the Midway, the famous C. A. Worthan Shows, featuring 30 attractions, many new and novel.

**POULTRY EXHIBIT**  
under the auspices of the South Carolina Poultry Breeders' Association. Held in conjunction with the State Fair. B. E. Adams, President, Charleston, S. C.

**AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**  
from every section of the state, including work of Boys' Corn and Pig Clubs; also Girls' Club work.

**CAROLINA-CLEMSON FOOTBALL CLASSIC**  
The one big football game of the season. Reserved seats provided for 2,000 spectators. Football Day, Thursday, 27th.

**REDUCED RATES ON ALL RAILROADS**  
Admissions: Adults, 75c; children under 12 years, 35c. Further reduced rates for school children's tickets when bought in advance in bulk. These tickets not sold at fair grounds, but must be secured in advance from the railroad and will be redeemed at full value if not used. Prices 25c and over. For premium list or information, write:

D. F. EFIRD, Secretary, Columbia, S. C.

Columbia October 24-28

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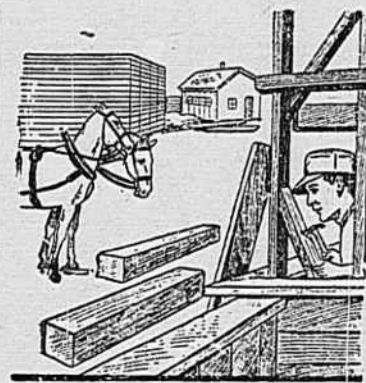
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