The Fairfield Herald. PABLISHED.

EVERY WEDNESDAY.

Cotton in California.

THE GOLDEN STATE AS A FIELD FOR GROWING THE FLEECY STAPLE.

Major John L. Strong has furnished the San Josquin Valley Argus with the following comprehensive statement of the cotton crop in Mor-"cod, Mariposa, Fresno and Kern coun-

ON THE MERCED.

The crops on the Merced River are same date the past year, and than any inpected by Major Strong. A heavy yield would result from all the plantings if unmolested by the bugs which so seriously damaged the Strong crop last year. The same crop this year would yield a bale per acre if not damaged by bugs. It has already suffered much injury from this pest, and they continue to deprodate upon it, so that no predictions as to yield may be depended upon.

THE COTTON CROPS ON MARIPOSA CREEK. The crops on Maripesa crock are more promising than at this season last year, when the avorage yield was two hundred and fifty pounds of ginned cotton per acre. The first blooms on the Mariposa were found on Wilconstants of the season last year. cox's place on June 23. Mr. Wilcox has a une crop of 130 acres, which is in some respects the most remarkable cotton crop ever produced in the United States and perhaps in the world. The entire work, except the hooing, has been performed by two men. The hooing cost \$160 and was executed by Chinamen. Much of it was thinned to a stand at the rate of two and a half acres per man per day and "laid by" in May. We remem-ber to have noted some two years since some rather severe criticisms of the statements put torth by Major Strong through the public journals to to the effect that one man in California would cultivate double the numher of acres of cotton that were cultices the fact that a laborer here will cultivate more than five times the nu abor of acres cultivated by a laborer in that region. Actual experience demonstrates results so far beyond the predictions of Major Strong as to render statements which then seemed the extravagant fancies of an enthusiast, true and insignificant by comparison. Nor is this remarkable work confined to a single operator. II. E. McClure has a crop of forty-five acres-the best crop on Mariposa Creek-all the work upon which he has performed himself, except the hocing, which was done by Chinamen at a cost of \$100. Turner & Helm have a crop of fifty acres near the feet hills, which is equally remarkable for the economy with which it has been cultivated, and which promises a fine yield. The crop of Sampson Brothers, at the forks of the Mariposa, comprise tifty acres, another two having performed the entire work except heeing.

an average yield of 250 pounds of ginned cotton per acre. The crop is ou the Hazelton ranch, and the planting was attended with so many difficulties that they deserve mention, if but to show the wonderful results to be developed by the future in cotton culture in our State. The Hazelton ranch lies immediately upon Mariposa Crook, and a large proportion of it is annually inundated by it during the rainy season. The lands planted by Major Strong are of this character. He informs us that 75 of the 340 acres ploughed was a cotton field last year, the balance was a jungle of small woods, sun-flowers, old stubble, green barley, oats, grass, &c. Possession of the Hazelton ranch was secured the 5th of March, and the first furrow was ploughed on the 9th. A large proportion of ground had not been ploughed for four years, and was covered with the swamp grass paid for. known as "Merced staight," the roots very like those of "salt grass," and as difficult to break. The ground was first mowed, then raked into winrows and burned, then ploughed and harrowed. Much of it could not be burned because of the gren grass which had grown up among the dry stuff and had to be hauled off the land. Whenever sufficiently clean this green growth was fed for hay. The ploughing extended through April and planting was begun on the 15th. Thus the ploughing, planting, moving and raking all proceeded tomowing and raking all proceeded together. The planting comprising 300 acres, was finished on the 10th of May. The ground, dry from the vegetation with which it was covered, from late ploughing, and the loose condition in which it was left by the heavy sod and the vast quantity of trash turned un der, gave but a poor stand. Much of it had to be replanted. This occu- Popular Expositor of the Gosp 1 pied nearly the whole of May, replanting being stopped on the 20th. A dam was built across the creek which would have enabled Major S. to flood two or more acres of very dry land, many difficulties exhibits as a result 518 Arch St., Philadelphia Pa. a crop equal to the annual average growth of the Mississippi river bottom properties in the form of a Powder as the state this season. On the 7th of July Saratogo Mi ieral Spring Waters, and used o 180 to 100 bolls, blooms and squares p r stalk-the stalks not above 21 Portable Prepared only by GEO, II. Eisn root in heigth. The best cotton is

five or six feet. Major Strong thinks A Work of Intense Interest and Intrinsic that all the land planted in cotton the that all the land planted in cotton the present year on this ranch will, with a like season next year, yield 1,000 pounds of seed cutton per acre, or about 333 pounds of ginned cotton. The past spring was very unfavorable to the rapid growth and development of the cotton crop. It was characterized especially by cold high winds, and the absence of our usual spring showers. The lands planted in cotton on

Mariposa oreek were nearly all new lands, and the crop of the present year is a mere indication of what they will produce when, through successive years of cultivation, they shall be brought into good condition. So, much futher advanced than at the too, the expense of preparing the same date the past year, and than any ground for planting, and the work of planting will be reduced to one-half its present cost.

GRAIN AND COTTON CROPS COMPARED.

Similar results in comparison with grain mark the crops of 1873. While the yield of volunteer grain immediately along-side of the cotton on the Hazelton ranch did not exceed five bushels per sore, the yield of cotton will average 250 pounds. The grain -wheat-would be worth on the ranch about \$360 per acre at present prices, and cotton at the very low price of 15 cents per pound, \$37 50.

Special Notices.

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