A Remedy for Large Crops and Star-vation Prices.

From the Charleston News and Courier It seems to the writer that the presen position of financial and commercial af-fairs, as affecting the prospects of the agricultural and especially the cotton-producing interests of the South, and foreshadowing widespread distress to all classes, unless a speedy betterment is brought about, calls for the serious consideration of all our people and for the devising of such means as will bring re-

It is admitted that our people are in a great measure responsible for the position, by their own want of thrift since the war, and by their persistent action in confining themselves so strictly to the raising of cotton, to the neglect of the more essential matter of making abundant provision crops, and having their cotton crop entirely a surplus one. Had this course been steadily pursued, the planting interest would now be out of debt, and could afford to sell cotton at 8 to 10 cents per pound. But we must take things as we find them, and our planters are not in the position which they ought to occupy, but are unfortunately, most of them, heavily in debt on the growing crop, with the prospect of getting much less for cotton this year than the last, unless the situation is changed. Can that be done? is the guestion and I answer that it can is the question, and I answer that it can, by a united and determined action on the part of the planters of the South. The present and prospective low price of cotton is in a great measure due to the natural cause of the excessive production of late years, overrunning the consumption, but other causes, not natural to the business, have tended to depress prices, and will continue to do so until planters learn wisdom, and, by unanimity in counsel and decision in action, put themselves in position to dictate the price of cotton instead of being dictated to. The chief of the unnatural causes alluded to is the influence brought to bear of late years, in depression of prices, through the system of future selling as practiced in this country and Europe. The system of short selling brings in an element which before was unknown, and whereas in old times every one wanted cotton to advance, because speculation could make no money without it did so, now a large and unscrupulous moneyed influence at the principal cotton centres of the world can sell short, or, in other words, sell to words, sell to words, or, in other words, sell to form themselves into a "Cotton Planters" of themselves into a "Cotton Planters". make money by a decline, and then so manipulate to depress prices, that we have often seen the anomalous position in the market of a decline in the article when the natural position would seem to warrant an advance but for these outside influences. The aim of the short speculator and of the cotton spinner thus being to get cotton as cheaply as possible, regardless of the detriment to the farming interest, and in fact of the general interest of the whole country, the ques-tion occurs, how are the planters to pro-tect themselves against the evils which have ruined many and threaten to ruin all? The answer again is, by so control ling the production of cotton as will make the outside and unnatural element, which is now the enemy of the cotton planter, his friend, by giving strength to the bull element and forcing the money rings to seek to corner the market for a rise instead of a fall, and thus forcing speculation in favor of cotton instead of against it. After prices are forced up to a point which would pay the planter, say 14 to 15 cents at the ports for middling their interest in the battles of the bulls and bears of speculation would cease. The question as to how the control of production by the planters is to be ac-complished, is, I think, very easy of so-lution, and only demands a little of the energy, perseverance and tact displayed so often in fostering enterprises of much less importance. The plan is this: Let all the cotton planters of the South unite themselves into a Cotton Planters' Protective Association, to be brought about as will hereafter be explained. Let that association be fully empowered to enact rules and regulations for the government rules and regulations for the government of the entire cotton planting interest, to decide every year what amount of land is to be planted in cotton, so as to regulate the approximate number of bales which will be produced each year, due regard being had to the policy of not having the crop too small or too large, but such a crop as it is likely could be marketed at a minimum price of not less than fourteen cents per pound for mid-

than fourteen cents per pound for mid-dling at the port, thus giving the farmers fair remuneration, and keeping prices within such a range as will afford fair profit to spinners, and tend to maintain the position of American cotton against too severe competition from India and other cotton-producing countries. Now, supposing that last March, when it was pretty well conceded that the current crop would be over four and a half million bales, it could have been determined that for this year the crop put in the ground should, under no cir-cumstances, exceed three and a half million bales by curtailment of the acreage what a different state of things would now exist. Cotton instead of dragging would be selling freely at three cents per pound higher than it now is. The mills of the world would be actively engaged instead of working short time. Goods instead of lumbering the shelves of man-ufacturers and jobbers would be in good demand at prices remunerative to the manufacturer, and we should have no more cries from "Providence journals" for complete stoppage of work, so that the mills could get the produce of the providence in the more planters for next to making in

poor planters for next to nothing, in order that New England mills could continue to pay big dividends at the expense of poor operatives and cotton planters.

I would here call to mind that several years ago, and I think in 1870 and 1871, we had a large crop, near 4,400,000 bales. It cost a good deal more to make cotton then as corn and bacon were much hightion as I have suggested could be formed, and a meeting called for the 1st of October or November, to decide upon the acreage of the next year—in view of the low prices promised for the growing crop—that it would have such an immediate then, as corn and bacon were much higher. Prices of that crop, according to best of my recollection, seldom exceeded 14 to 141 cents for middling at this port, and were considered pretty low, and in consequence of which farmers did not effect on prices as to save to the South during the next fall and winter fully fifty million dollars, which will otherwise go into the pockets of spinners and short-sellers of cotton, who have become the natural enemies of the planters, and who, pay out, and there was a great outcry all over our State and the Southern States latter mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water" by their incessant demands for about too much cotton being planted, the result of which was that, without any organization to control or direct, much lower and lower prices, certainly deserve no consideration at the hands of the planters, who should use every available less acreage was planted, which fact, coupled with an unfavorable season, brought the production of the next year to under three million bales. Cotton, which was selling in April and May, 1871 at 14 to planting too much cotton, and thus, to use a homely proverb, "providing a stick to break their own heads with." 14½ cents, in less than sixty days brought 21 to 22 cents here, and the following season prices kept above 20 cents, and in I believe that such a course as I have indicated would result in good, and that in five years from now we could afford, if necessary, to give the world more and cheaper cotton; but we must meanwhile have worked ourselves into a position of entire independence by our thrift and the spring of 1872 touched 26 cents in

In addition to the benefits spoken of from a decrease in production and prospect of remunerative prices, confidence would be restored and credits now im-paired be healed. Money could be loaned and borrowed with satisfaction

The arguments adduced may be thought and proved fallacious, and it may be that I may have reached a "most lame and A crop of three and a half million potent conclusion," but I at least have the welfare of the whole South at heart, and things will not mend until brought the next three years would mean a bountiful supply of corn and small grain, and with corn, &c., at home, our own bacon could be raised. Also about as I have indicated, at least in results, if not practicable, in the means suggested. Less cotton and more corn, and cattle, hogs, &c., in abundance. The three and a half million bales, at the end of the third year, would mean that much money in the Southern country to be kept at home, and not spent for corn, bacon, flour, &c., at the North and West; it would mean an enhancement. wheat, and rye, and bacon, and cattle, &c., &c., are the only salvation of the material welfare of the South. it would mean an enhancement in value of real property and all kinds of good securities, the fostering of manufacturing — A "habitual criminal" having been sharply taken to task the other day by a interests, the building up of new and desirable railroads; it would mean a people flourishing and free from debt. A crop of three and a half millions could be magistrate in Paris, replied that the magistrate was very "ungrateful" to treat him so. "And why, pray?" "Because, your honor, if it were not for men like me who made to pay to railroads and steamboats, make you necessary you would have no &c., in the incidental expenses of carry-place and no pay!"

ing it, as much as four and four and a together and get paid properly, instead of against each other as now, besides the flourishing condition of the country would so much increase local freight and travel as to compensate for a deficiency n bales of cotton. A crop of three and a half millions would mean good prices at home for the planter and such a de-mand on the part of European and North-ern spinners as would laugh at the addiional tax of a dollar or two more to be paid to railroads and steamers for transportation. Again, three million and a half would mean such a lively competi-

tion, to get it from all quarters, that our Southern ports would get as good prices as New York could. This would tend to break up the New York system, by which, for some years past, the short sellers there have been banking up cet-ton to use as a depressing influence in bearing the market. With three and a half million bales cotton would be too which he marks for his feet, and who is even now so near destruction as to be almost past recovery. He has lost his regard for his parents, lost his self-respect, lost the confidence of his friends, lost all reverence for sacred things, and has apscarce to allow of heavy accumulation at any ore point, and the only benefit they would realize in banking up would be in the increasing value of their accumula-tions, which the farmers would not grudge them, having themselves been properly

you look do you ask the cause of all this? We answer, "He begun crooked." Look at that man in trade, who tells a paid for their labor. The question then recurs, how is this state of things to be brought about?

I reply in this way: Let a number of influential matters. different story to each customer, and misrepresents, and bows, and flatters, and lies, and says all manner of crooked influential gentlemen in our State, with things to dispose of articles which he has for sale, while none who know him besome such good organizer and speaker as Col. D. W. Aiken, meet together for consultation. Let them issue a call to all the planters of the State to elect delelieve a word he utters. Are you astonished at this, and do you inquire how one, in a Christian land, can be so gates to a general cotton planters' convention, to be held, say, 1st September, at Columbia, S. C. Let them advise the perverse? We answer, "He begun Look at that professor of religion, who

calling of primary meetings at each township for the purpose of electing one or more delegates to the State Convenis continually a source of anxiety to his pastor, whose conduct and feeling are as variable as the wind; who smiles to-day but frowns and frets to-morrow; who is tion at those primary meetings. Let the objects and benefits of the association be clearly set forth, and let the planters of every township form themselves into an sometimes burning up with zeal, and sometimes as cold as an iceberg; who is now here, now there, now this one's friend, now that one's friend, who can association, pledging themselves to abide by and to act according to the decrees of the general State association, and ulti-mately of the general association of the Cotton States, in reference to all matters be pliable as a willow or as stubborn and stiff as the sturdy oak, and who is known to be a crooked disciple, upon whom little reliance can be placed. Look at him, we say, and mark out his course, and that may be suggested and advised by such association regarding the acreage of cotton to be planted. Let the Columbia then if you wish to know why he is thus inconsistent and variable, our answer is, association meet and elect delegates to "He begun crooked," and he will be crooked to the end of his life. All the preaching in the world can never get the meet conventions of other States, (a call having in the first place been made by the originators of the movement on promcrooks out of him. inent gentlemen of every other Southern There are straight men; the Bible calls them upright men—so erect in all their moral bearings, that a plumb line State for similar action,) let that general convention be called to meet, say, on 1st would touch them all the way from head to feet. These begun straight, and have

continued as they begun. Very much depends upon the beginning. And you Protection Association," perpetual as long as may be necessary, such powers having been delegated by the respective State Convention. Then let the dictum may know, when you see in any depart-ment of life, crooked men and crooked women, it is "because they begun crookcome from this central body as to the amount of land to be planted in cotton each year, the convention meeting yearly for that purpose. I would suggest this as the "modus operandi" of procedure. Starting upon the assumption that in fairly average. door-bell the other morning, and we de-cended the stairs and grappled the doorfairly average seasons the yield of cotton is about a half bale to the acre, the conknob. A middle-aged man, with sinister ention would simply have to decide countenance and ginister breath, stood

what number of acres must be planted to what number of acres must be planted to produce a given crop, and then decree that each and every planter, a member of the association, must decrease or increase his planting, just in proportion as it is desired that the crop to be planted should be made more or less than the crop immediately preceding it. To make t more clear I will suppose a case. If such a convention, and so empow-ered, had met on the first of last March,

with the knowledge that the current crop would be over four and a half million bales, as the product with favoring sea-sons of nine million acres of land, and that the price of cotton was thereby too low for profit to the planter, at least three cents per pound, the necessary action would have been to decide as to the numwould have been to decide the coming ber of bases to be made for the coming year. Now, suppose three and three-quarter millions was fixed on as the outside figure, as being likely to stop any farther decline and put prices up to about 14 cents at the ports for the coming year, the convention would have decided that not over seven million five cided that not over seven million five hundred thousand acres should be planted in cotton, and have decreed that each planter should lessen his cotton acreage planter should lessen his cotton acreage planter should lessen his cotton acreage in the complete of the coming year, the convention would have decided that not over seven million five cided that not over seven milli ber of bases to be made for the coming

cannot be got to act together, as well as

the cotton States so many millions every

that in a matter of this kind, where men

ive accuracy.

I verily believe that if such an associa-

by their persistent efforts to make the

means to counteract their efforts by not

ed in cotton, and have decreed that each planter should lessen his cotton acreage in percentage just in proportion to the decrease in percentage between the aggregate acreage of the two seasons—this, in the case stated, being about 17 per cent.—each planter would be expected by this pledge to plant that much less in cotton then the year prayious had wine in your cellar that was made in the time of the first Crusade, and that you would invite me in and fill me so full of pound-cake and the juice of the ancient grape that I would be compelled to get cotton than the year previous.

This course, if carried out, would inevitably reduce the crop within a calcuculable approximation of any given amount. The objection will arise that it into one of your most luxurious beds and remain over night." "Then you are the Emperor of Brazil,

terrupted.

are you? "Yam—the simon-pure, bona fide Em-peror of Brazil."
"Well, Pedro, as you came along the is impossible to get men to act together, so as to produce such results, and that many who pledge would not act in good faith. Now, I don't see why, when such incalculable interests are involved, men fence there, did you notice a section of it

that swings on hinges?"
"Why, of course I did. You mean the in getting up conventions for political purposes, instances of which have only lately passed in review before us, and I think that a course which would save to. gate, I suppose. How do you expect I got into the yard?"

"We thought perhaps that as you were an Emperor, you spurned to walk through an ordinary gate, and crawled under the fence. Now, Pedro, old boy, let's see if you can get through that gate again with-out knocking any of the paint off the year is of more importance than what particular individual shall be President or Vice President. Again, on the matter of acting in good faith, I have enough confidence in human nature to believe

He started slowly down the path, but stopped presently, and by the movement of his lips we judged that he was indulwould pledge themselves to a certain line of action, that nineteen out of twen-ty would stand up to their engagements, and by making a moderate allowance for ging in silent anathemas. We quietly picked up a brick, and he moved on again and was soon out of sight. That's the only way to deal with Centennial spelling book emperors.—Franklin (Ky.) Pathe faithless and such as might refuse to join in a pledge, and also allowing for possibilities of new acreages from new farms being opened up, the aggregate acreage necessary to produce a certain result could be fixed upon with compara-

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

- Men will frequently give assent to philanthropical views, but not a cent to "What! no more ammunition?"

cried the captain of a military company on a field day. "No; no more," replied his men. "Then cease firing," replied — A merchant went home the other night and said cheerfully to his wife: "Well, my dear, I've failed at last." "Oh,

that's good !" exclaimed his wife, with a radiant face; "now we can go to the Centennial." - A Yankee, advertising for a wife, says: "It would be well if the lady were possessed of a competency sufficient to

ecure ber against excessive grief in case of accident occurring to her companion."

— It is said they live longest who have moderate ambitions. The man who quits work and commences to whittle in front of a grocery store at the age of thirty is likely to whittle and be a blessing to his

family for fifty years.

— Charcoal has been discovered to be a cure for burns. By laying a piece of cold charcoal upon the burn the pain subsides immediately. By leaving the charcoal on one hour the wound is healed, as has been demonstrated on several

- It is difficult to conceive anything more beautiful than the reply given by one in affliction when he was asked how he bore it so well: "It lightens the stroke," he said, "to draw nearer to Him who handles the rod."

- Circumstantial evidence: cumstances alter cases, you know," re-marked a Scotch lawyer to an old farmer "Verra true, sir," replied the farmer, "and cases alter circumstances as weel; for, man, I mind when ye were young and had but few cases, your circumstances were na ower braw."

— At one time Daniel Webster had a

difficult case to plead, and a verdict was returned against his client. One of the witnesses came to him and said, "Mr. Webster, if I had thought we should have lost the case, I might have testified a good deal more than I did." "It is of little consequence," replied the lawyer; "the jury did not believe a word you said."

child and a friend who spent the previous night in the family to which she belonged. Said the girl to the visitor: "Were CENTENNIAL you cold last night?" The visitor pleasantly replied, that "it was very cold when he put his feet down in the bed, and he had to lie crooked all night." Immediately the child replied: "That was because you begun crooked." Probably most persons understand the truth and astrones of the remark, who have sleet in aptness of the remark, who have slept in

"Begun Crooked."

One cold morning last week, I heard

the following conversation between a

Look at the youth, who is irregular in his habits, and crooked in all the paths

proached to the verge of ruin. And as

Dom Pedro.

There came an energetic ring at the

"I am Dom Pedro, Emperor of Brazil,"

"Ah!" we replied, "how's the Em-

"Never mind the Empress," he rejoined; "just give your undivided attention

to the Emperor for a few minutes. You see, since leaving Brazil I've become a little short up for means, and am making

an effort to raise the wind, as the Ameri-

cans say. I am selling the Centennial spelling-book. I met a party down town

who said you were an editor, and needed a spelling-book badly, and"— "What else did he tell you?" we in-

"He said you had a wife who was orthographically shaky, and eleven chil-dren who should each have one of my

a cold room and a "spare bed," on a win-But the remark, so expressive as originally applied, is capable of a still wider application, and in successive as originally applied as originally applied in successive as o application, and is suggestive of some

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It will be to the interest of every individual and each organization proposing to vidual and each organization proposing to make this trip to communicate with the

undersigned. A Centennial Exhibition Guide Book as authorized by the Commission will be given to the purchaser of each Centennial Ticket. Call on or address the following named agents of the Atlantic Coast Line J. H. White, Macon; A. L. Reed, Savannah; H. V. Tompkins, Atlanta; M. J. Divine, Macon; W. J. Walker, Montgomery.

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C. A. REED. Anderson, S. C., May 4, 1876.

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May 28, 1874

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