

The Manning Times.

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THE GROWING CROPS.

CONDITION AND GENERAL OUTLOOK ON THE FIRST OF AUGUST.

Excellent Prospects for a Great Yield of Cotton—Heavy Reduction in the Condition of Corn—No Improvement in Spring Wheat—A Poor Fruit Crop.

WASHINGTON, August 10.—The August report of the Department of Agriculture gives the following facts and figures as to the condition of the growing crops throughout the country:

COTTON.
The past month has been favorable, except that the rainfall has been unequally distributed in point of time, drought threatening at one period and damaging rains following. In the eastern belt the excess of moisture predominates as a factor of depreciation. The weed is therefore large and sappy, and the fruit fall appears in some fields serious, and some cases of rust appear. In Louisiana similar conditions have prevailed, and only very partially in Mississippi. Texas has been too dry, though the drought has not as yet been disastrous or severe. The prevalent status of the crop is very good for the first of August. While the reports recognize this as a critical time and fear the effect of subsequent droughts on the green and succulent condition of the plant, yet, in a comparison of ten years, the August condition is only exceeded by that of 1882 and 1885, the one producing a large crop and the other an under medium yield. The general average condition is 93.3, which is lower by over three points, than that of July. The State averages are as follows: Virginia 94, North Carolina 96, South Carolina 95, Georgia 94, Florida 96, Alabama 93, Mississippi 96, Louisiana 94, Texas 88, Arkansas 97, Tennessee 95. The first brood of caterpillars has appeared in several States, but is not generally mentioned in the returns. It is reported in Orangeburg and Berkeley, S. C., in Calhoun, Taylor, Dooley and Laurens, Georgia; in Hale and Dallas, Alabama; in Stark, Newton, Issaquena and Okibbeha, Mississippi; in Red River, Bossier, Richland, Natchitoches and Iberville, Louisiana, and in Stephens Camp and Jackson, Texas. The boll worm is much less frequently mentioned.

CEREALS.
The prospect a month ago was for a very heavy crop of corn and the rate of yield about the average. Its condition in all the States of the Atlantic coast is now unimpaired and of very high promise. In Texas and Tennessee the condition has declined materially. In the central corn region, however, in the valleys of the Ohio and the Missouri, where two-thirds of the crop is grown and the commercial supply is procured, a very heavy reduction has taken place, which has made the national average 80.7, instead of 97.7 last month. The cause is the long-continued drought, which has been severe in Kansas, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. Nebraska has been scorched on the southern border, and Iowa and Missouri have escaped with comparatively light loss, as have the more Northern States. The seven corn surplus States stand as follows: Ohio 82, Indiana 64, Illinois 65, Iowa 90, Missouri 80, Kansas 60, Nebraska 75. The condition of spring wheat, which was reported very low last month, from ravages of chinch bug, is not improved in the August returns, but has fallen off very slightly. The general average is 78.8, two points less than the August returns of last year. Dakota has made a slight change and stands highest in condition. The average for Wisconsin is 73, Minnesota 70, Iowa 72, Nebraska 77, Dakota 80. In the extreme east and Pacific coast the condition of spring wheat is high. There is no report of winter wheat the present month, as it is too early to obtain results.

In the oats crop there is no change. A part of the breadth was harvested at last reports. The condition averages 85.6, which indicates a crop slightly under the average.

The barley crop promises to yield rather better than was feared last month. The eastern product averages a higher condition, but is reduced slightly since last reports. The average is 86.2, indicating nearly an average yield.

Wheat appears to be practically the same as last year and averages about 90.3 in condition.

TObACCO.
The tobacco crop is in high condition in the seed leaf States, averaging nearly 100, except in Wisconsin. The shipping and cutting district of the West make unprecedented reports of low condition—Tennessee 58, Kentucky 50, Ohio 53, Indiana 56, Illinois 52, Missouri 60. In view of the heavy reduction in acreage in fragments, the usual crop may be expected. An official investigation of the area now in progress will determine authoritatively the breadth cultivated the present year.

POTATOES.
There is a great reduction since the 1st of July in the condition of potatoes, almost entirely the result of drought. There is no material decline on the Atlantic or Gulf coasts, but the injury is severe in the West. The loss during the month as reported is fully 20 per cent. of the prospective crop.

FRUIT.
The fruit crop is very poor. There will be few apples outside New England and New York. There will be a partial crop in Michigan. In the Ohio River States the harvest will be nearly an entire failure.

HAY.
The hay crop is also greatly reduced. In the West the general crop is 80.

THE CROPS IN THE STATE.
The Condition of Cotton, Corn, Rice and Other Crops, as Reported to the Department of Agriculture.

The consolidation of the crops for the month ending August 1st, from returns to the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, shows the following interesting facts and figures:

The estimates given are based upon 271 fields, covering every county in the State. Two hundred and thirteen cor-

respondents report that the weather has been favorable and forty-two unfavorable.

COTTON.
The crop was thought to be slightly injured by the excessive hot weather during a few days of the month, but timely rains came and the crop was recovering, when the heavy rains continuing have caused the cotton to shed some of its fruit. The crop was two or three weeks earlier than last year, and, therefore, has a full bottom crop. Some of our correspondents say that if the seasons continue three weeks longer that a full crop will be gathered, and that it will be the largest yield that has been produced in this State for several years, if not the largest ever produced. But there are so many casualties that may arise before the maturity of the crop from continued heavy rains, drought and the caterpillars, which has appeared in some localities, that it may, in our next report, materially change the average for the State.

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The condition is reported in upper Carolina at 97 per cent.; middle Carolina at 102 per cent., and in lower Carolina at 99 per cent. An average for the State of 99 per cent., showing a falling of 2 per cent. for the State since our last report; but, nevertheless, the crop is still better than for years up to this date.

CORN.
The corn crop is reported generally to be the best ever grown in the State. The early upland corn is matured and secured from injury. The late corn has received rains sufficient to almost bring it to perfection.

The condition of the crop is reported in upper Carolina at 99 per cent.; middle Carolina 102 per cent., and lower Carolina 97 per cent.; an average for the State of 99 per cent., against 94 per cent. for the crop of last year. This percentage will be somewhat reduced owing to the freshets, which has destroyed much of the corn planted on river and creek bottoms; but, with those drawbacks and the increased acreage and yield, the crop will be the largest ever produced.

RICE.
The reports for a large crop of rice for the average planted still continues favorable, and if it is not injured by the present floods, which cannot now be determined, will be the largest for a number of years.

The condition is reported for upper Carolina at 94 per cent., middle Carolina at 98 per cent., and lower Carolina at 97 per cent. An average for the State of 97 per cent., the same as June report.

OTHER CROPS.
The condition of the other crops is reported as follows:
Sorghum, for upper Carolina at 97 per cent., middle Carolina at 97 per cent., and lower Carolina at 97 per cent., an average for the State of 97 per cent. Sugar cane, for upper Carolina 83 per cent., middle Carolina 98 per cent., and lower Carolina at 97, an average for the State of 92 per cent. Pease, for upper Carolina at 98 per cent., middle Carolina at 100 per cent., and for lower Carolina 95 per cent., an average for the State of 98 per cent., and our correspondents report a large increase in the average over previous years. Irish potatoes reported for upper Carolina at 89 per cent., middle Carolina at 89 per cent., and lower Carolina at 89 per cent. Sweet potatoes are reported for upper Carolina at 95 per cent., middle Carolina at 100 per cent., and lower Carolina at 97 per cent., an average for the State of 97 per cent. Our correspondents report this crop in fine condition, and as the crop has increased 2 per cent. in acreage the yield must necessarily be very large.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS UNION SPY.
Fardaw Warsley, Who Followed Mosby and Lee, is No More.

Pardaw Warsley, the "Union spy of the Shenandoah," died at his home at Foster Brook, N. Y., last week, aged sixty-seven years. Beginning life as a fine goods merchant in Massachusetts, at the opening of the war he raised a company of the Fourteenth Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. He was soon afterwards employed by Major-General B. F. Butler in the name of the United States to go into the British provinces to look into the system of blockade-running then in vogue. He was successful in this mission, for Major-General C. C. Angur, in his report of August 25, 1865, says that it was through the instrumentality of Mr. Warsley that the extensive system of blockade-running from Baltimore and Washington was broken up. After returning from this trip Warsley went out as a spy upon Mosby under Angur, though not until he had returned to Boston and married Helen Isabelle Francis, who survives him.

Accompanied by his young wife, Warsley set out ostensibly upon a peddling trip through Virginia. His real object was soon suspected by Mosby, and a spy was placed upon his track. The spy was a handsome young lady who was to be conducted to Washington by Warsley. The Union spy was too smart to be caught, and, instead of using his pass through the Union lines, he conducted the lady through swamps and by-roads until she became disgusted with the trip, and she returned to Mosby convinced of the loyalty of Warsley. Mosby was not convinced, and at one time placed a pistol to Warsley's head, threatening to blow his brains out, if he did not interest and Warsley's life was saved. Afterwards Mosby became his firm friend, fighting a duel with a nephew of General Lee because Lieutenant Lee had set a guard upon Warsley and had condemned him as a spy. On two occasions Warsley furnished information by which the Federal forces were enabled to surround the house in which Mosby was quartered, but the dashing Debel cut his way out and escaped. On several occasions Warsley got information of intended raids upon Washington in time to allow the authorities to mass their forces and save the capital.

At the time of the assassination of President Lincoln Warsley was given command of a squad of detectives. When Booth was killed Warsley returned to private life, and for years ran a Paris restaurant in the Bradford oil fields.

William Mellwain, colored, was shot through not fatally, last Saturday night by Mr. W. S. R. Hager, while on act of stealing watermelons from Mr. Harper's patch in Lancaster.

Young men of middle-aged ones, suffering from nervous debility and kindred weaknesses should send 10 cents in stamps for illustrated book suggesting sure means of cure. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

BISMARCK'S BIG SCHEME.

A Remarkable Project Which the German Chancellor is Said to Have in View—Germany Wants Holland.

(Special to the New York Herald.)

FRANKFORT, August 8.—By a very lucky coincidence I have just had a highly interesting conversation with a foreign diplomatist whose high position enables him to have as clear an insight into the views and ulterior aims of Prince Bismarck as perhaps any man living can have. The diplomatist in question was passing through Frankfort on his way to a fashionable German watering place, and the fortune of travel placed us in the same railway carriage.

I called the diplomatist's attention to the report published by the Brussels Gazette to the effect that the German staff were completing a measure by which in twenty-four hours some 100,000 German troops could be thrown into Holland. The diplomatist said:

"That report is so near to the truth that it is sure to be contradicted. German designs upon Holland, are, in my opinion, the key note of Prince Bismarck's future projects. Prince Bismarck, if he cloaks his acts, seldom conceals his opinions, and I have serious reasons that justify my conviction that before long Prince Bismarck will, by an adroit move, use Holland as the means, strange as it may seem at first sight, of cementing friendship with France and of acquiring a colonial empire for Germany."

I remarked: "I don't quite understand you. How could this be done?"

"In this way. Suppose some day Germany were to say to France, 'You may have Alsace-Lorraine back again provided you will let Germany have carte blanche elsewhere and agree to Germany absorbing Holland and all the Holland colonies.' A proposition to return the lost provinces would be received in France with leaps and bounds of joy. At heart the French and Germans do not hate each other nearly as bitterly as the French and English do."

"I firmly believe that Prince Bismarck really contemplates such a move. The Chancellor never follows well-beaten lines of diplomatic routine. His genius is as indefinable as that of a poet, a founder of religion, or of an artist. His diplomatic thunderbolts strike at one moment in Schleswig-Holstein, then in Austria and again in France. He is not the man to have made such extraordinary sacrifices to lay the foundation of German colonization unless he felt sure of reaping a rich harvest."

"The Chancellor knows that every German who emigrates to America is forever lost to Germany. The moment Germany has colonies of her own this vast drain upon her Fatherland can not only be checked, but transformed into a priceless source of strength. The vast colonies of Holland offer exactly what Germany wants. They could be at once made profitable without spending a single thaler. Holland has sunk millions of gulden and thousands of men in Java and Sumatra. With German organization and energy the Dutch Indies would form a sort of wedge or strategic vantage ground, dividing England's two great colonial bulwarks—Australia and India."

"Prince Bismarck feels that France and Germany are natural allies, and that the real enemy of Germany, France and Russia is England. It is on this basis that the future of Europe and Asia is to be settled—the Continent for the Continent; Germany to cement lasting friendship with France by giving her back Alsace-Lorraine and thereby realize her magnificent dream of colonial empire; and Russia, under the regis of Germany and France, to secure the road, not only to Constantinople, but to a much coveted port on the Indian Ocean, between Persia and British India."

"It is to-day not France, but England, that is the Chancellor's bete noire. Everywhere he turns it is England that opposes his interests. In the Balkan every nerve is strung tight to create small independent nationalities into carriers against Russian and Austrian conquest. And as to the domination that Bismarck is trying to bring about in Egypt, England is the dog in the manger that prevents Bismarck's policy of placing Egypt under French or continental control. In Central Asia it is England that prevents Russia from developing southward—a policy which was always felt by Bismarck to be a necessity, in order to enable Germany to hold her own in Central Europe. Everywhere it is England that stands in the Chancellor's way."

And here the diplomatist lighted a fresh cigar, and added, with a significant smile:

"In spite of these plain facts England, in the present naval manoeuvres, seems to have utterly ignored the possibility of defence against a German or an allied French, German and Russian fleet attacking her from the North Sea. The British naval authorities seem to have only provided for the case of French invaders coming from Cherbourg or Bournemouth."

Sam Jones at Chautauqua.

The lecture of Sam Jones on "Character and Character" is going on, and as I now write in hearing of much he says, it is clear that he has his audience well in hand and is playing upon the thousands who listen as the harper plays upon the strings of his instrument. As often, on an average, as once a minute there bursts forth the most stormy applause. The man is at his best, and this is with him a field day. He has distinguished between character and reputation, character and orthodoxy, character and professions and relations, and is now picturing the relation of character to temperance, high-license, prohibition and a great many other interests of practical life. He is absolutely fearless, and really he loves a shining mark. He has no more love or reverence for lords and nobles, judges and bishops, than for tramps, when discussing questions of right and wrong. He seems to be oblivious to everything but one, and to concentrate himself into a lightning bolt for the purpose of striking the one point he wishes to hit hard.—Correspondence Buffalo Courier.

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TIMELY TOPICS FOR FARMERS.

HOW TO DO PAVING WORK AT THIS SEASON.

Suggestions of Interest, from an Authoritative Source.

(W. L. Jones in Southern Cultivator.)

August is usually a month of comparative rest on the Southern farm. The arduous labor of cultivating the two most important crops is pretty well over on every well-managed farm, excepting, possibly, in the extreme northern edge of our peculiar territory. Although July 1st is literally the midway station in the year's calendar, August 1st is really nearer the dividing line between the work of cultivation and the labors of the harvest. Yet there may be some work that may profitably be done in the continued cultivation of the cotton field.

SHALL PLOWING CONTINUE?
It depends on the condition of the plants and seasons. If the crop is in a growing condition, and fruiting well, but is rather later in development than it should be, the cultivators, or shallow-running sweeps and scrapes, may be run over the fields every ten days, particularly after a rainfall sufficient to form a crust. Root-cutting and mangling must be carefully avoided, as the effect will be to cause the plant to shed its fruit and then take on a new growth too late to amount to anything. The object now should be to prevent the shedding of the squares already formed, and encourage their development into blooms and bolls, since very few that make their appearance after the tenth of the month will escape the first killing frosts of October. Late cotton should be encouraged to keep up a vigorous growth, not that the additional development of the weed will increase the number of bolls by the formation of new squares, but that the squares and young bolls may be hastened to full size and earlier maturity. Where sweeps and scrapes have been used during June and July, if cultivation be continued now, it is better to run the implement in the same furrow previously laid run, and thus avoid plunging the plow into the ridges of soil cast up at the plowing. One furrow in the middle using a twenty-inch sweep, scrape or cultivator, will generally be all that is now required.

TOPPING COTTON.
Many experiments have been made in topping cotton in the last forty years, and the results and conclusions have been very diverse. Sometimes it pays; often it does not; sometimes it injures. No rule can be given that will always work. The usual object in topping is to prevent further growth of weed and forms after the plant has as many as it can sustain, and when new forms would be too late to mature; the idea being to induce the plant to throw all its vigor into the effort to develop the forms already visible. The object, according to our observation, is rarely attained by merely removing the growing top of the plant, but may often be accomplished by topping or lopping off the growing ends of the branches, as well as the leader. In most cases where topping cotton resulted in increasing the yield it might have been noticed that the work was done rather early—some time in July. Every one has observed that stalks of cotton that were topped by the bite of the plow-horse early in the season are often made much more fruitful thereby. In such cases the effect of the early topping was probably to push the branches of the stalks into more vigorous growth, causing a more rapid evolution of forms. On the whole, we have very little faith in topping cotton as a part of a regular system.

PULLING FODDER.
The propriety of pulling fodder, i. e., whether it does not injure the grain more than the fodder is worth, to pull the blades as is usually done, is one of the questions that has been long mooted, but never settled. Experimenters differ in results and conclusions. Possibly each is correct in the results of his experiment, but wrong in his general conclusions. The only true conclusion is, that pulling the blades sometimes does, and sometimes does not, injure the grain more than the value of the fodder secured. It is commonly said, in comparison with the animal system that the blades of corn are the lungs of the plant, by means of which the plant takes in nutriment from the air; and as an animal will at once die if deprived of its lungs, therefore the corn will be injured by removing the blades—a very singular and altogether unwarranted conclusion. If it is said that the plant will die if deprived of its blades—lungs—the simile would be perfect and the conclusion correct. It is a fact in vegetable economy that the leaves or blades of plants continue green and succulent for a time after they have ceased to be at all necessary to the perfection of the fruit or seed. Familiar illustrations of this law may be found on every hand. In the case of the corn plant, under favorable and natural conditions of soil and season, the ear of corn—the fruit of the plant—is among the first parts to show signs of maturity. The tassel and silk perform their office, and are the first to be shed, and the husk or sheath, and the enclosed grain. This succession will be noted particularly when corn is grown on fresh lands or soils abounding in humus. On worn and exhausted soils, or soils deprived of vegetable matter, and easily influenced by drouth, the blades often "dry up" before the grain is fully matured. In such cases it is undoubtedly true that to hasten the stripping of the blades, without reference to the condition of the ear, would result in more or less injury and loss of weight of grain. Of this every farmer must be his judge. Be governed by the condition of the ear, and not the blades altogether, in deciding just when to commence pulling.

There is nothing in the way of hay that is more generally relished by stock than milder cured corn blades; and there are only a very few kinds (clovers and lucern) that are more nutritious. Our horses and cattle are generally reliable judges; and they turn out the best milder hay, and prefer corn fodder. The Northern and Western farmers do not appreciate the quality of well cured corn blades, because under their system they do not pull the blades as we do, but cut down stalk and all, and treat the

stalk and blades, after removing the ears, as so much roughness, or cover, fit only to be picked over, or to be the bulk of it trampled under foot into the manure. With their rich meadows and mowers they cannot afford the tedious labors involved and meagre returns from the practice of fodder-pulling as followed by Southern farmers. They are right, and we are wrong in this matter. If only the labor devoted to pulling and housing corn blades in the South were employed in preparing meadows and mowing grass the result would add millions of dollars to the value of our farm results. We would then be encouraged to increase the area devoted to grass for mowing to any desired extent, until our barns would be filled with plenty for horses, mules, sheep and cattle, and the sorry spectacle of half-finished animals, shivering in the cold and rain, and moaning for their stunted and often forgotten allowance of shucks, would be banished from among us.

To do this we are not dependent on the doubtful success or the standard hay grasses from abroad. We have our own native—at least thoroughly naturalized—crab grass, crowfoot, Bermuda, and several species of psalmias; besides several species of millet, Indian corn, clover, lucern, etc. Of course, if there is no other resource for hay, and nothing more profitable for the hands to do, the fodder should be pulled. A common field hand, costing say fifty cents a day, can save one dollar's worth of fodder, and possibly not seriously injure the corn—a very good operation. The plan of cutting the stalks down will not answer in our climate, and without other resource of better forage.

WHAT MAY BE PLANTED.
August has sometimes been called a second spring, in allusion to the fact that many of the crops planted first in the earlier months may again be put in, but chiefly because it is the beginning of seedtime for all of the grasses and small grains. Many of the garden vegetables, including turnips, beets, beans, tomatoes, Irish potatoes, etc., may be planted with reasonable prospect of successful results. It is the main month for sowing all the rough-leaved varieties of turnips. Success depends more than in the spring—on deep preparation, liberal manuring with well rotted stable manure, or quickly soluble fertilizers, and good seasons. With little effort, and reasonable weather, most of the garden vegetables may be had in plenty until frost. We have several times succeeded well in producing an abundant supply of tomatoes from plants grown from cutting off the old plants. A cutting containing a vigorous shoot, with a portion of the older stem attached, will readily strike root; and if set in a deep dug soil and shaded for a few days it will soon come into bearing and continue until killed by frost.

BOB TOOMBS'S DEBUT.
"He Bounded Into the Arena Like a Black-Maned Numidian Lion."
(From the Louisville Courier-Journal.)

The first evidence of the coming power of this remarkable man was exhibited at Wilmington, a small village in Abbeville district (as the present counties were then called), South Carolina. General George McDuffie, the only representative of Demosthenes in this country since Patrick Henry, lived near there. McDuffie was harassed lightning. He forgot the chain of logic at a white heat. He was the most nervous, impassioned and scolding tribune of the People of that day. He demonstrated the political problems as Euclid did geometry, while foaming at the mouth and screaming like a painted Creek Indian. He had married the only daughter of Dick Singleton, the celebrated millionaire turkman and rice planter, and he owned four hundred slaves and made eight hundred bales of cotton a year. He had been a member of Congress, governor of South Carolina, and was afterwards United States Senator. The people, before making up their minds on any political question, would say "Mr. McDuffie is going to speak at Morrow's old field two weeks from now, and I will wait till I hear him," and there they would come forty and fifty miles, and camp out the night before to hear him, and his speech would decide the politics of the entire country once a year. On this Wilmington occasion it was said that "the everlasting mouthed Bob Toombs was coming over to meet him." Four thousand people were there when that rash young Georgian crossed the Savannah to meet the lion in his den, to beard the Douglas in his halls. Toombs rode a horse, and it was remarked that his shirt bosom was stained with tobacco-juice. Yet he was one of the handsomest men that ever had the seal of genius on his brow. His head was round as the celestial globe. His abundant, straight, black hair hung in profusion over his ample, marble forehead. He had as many teeth as a shark, and they were whiter than ivory. His eyes were black as death and bigger than an ox's. His step was as graceful as the wild-cat's, and yet he weighed two hundred pounds. His presence captivated even the idolaters of George McDuffie. He bounded into the arena like a black-maned Numidian lion from the unknown deserts of middle Georgia, to reply to the Olympian Jupiter of the up-country of the proud Palmetto State. It was the most memorable overthrow that McDuffie ever sustained. This was in the Harrison-Van Buren election of 1840. His argument, his inventive, his overwhelming torrent of irreverent denunciation, was a tradition in that country even now. McDuffie said: "I have heard John Randolph, of Roanoke, and met Tristram Burgess, of Rhode Island, but this wild Georgian is the Mirabeau of this age." After that South Carolina admitted that Georgia was something more than the refuge of South Carolina fugitives from justice. This was the beginning of Toombs's immortal Southern fame.

Since the recent death of ex-Senator R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia, Senator Ike, of Texas, and ex-Governor T. H. Watts, of Alabama, are the only surviving members of Mr. Davis's cabinet. Reason was postmaster general and Watts attorney general. At Montgomery, Ala., there was a secret session of the cabinet to see whether we should bombard Fort Sumter. Toombs was then secretary of State and was regarded as the most rash, headstrong and violent man in the Confederacy. While in the

CARTLOADS OF MONEY.

THE AMOUNT OF MONEY IN THE NATIONAL TREASURY.

Some Startling Figures About the Quantity of Money in the United States Treasury—The Public Debt Half Paid.

WASHINGTON, August 7.—Few persons, perhaps, who read the frequently published reports of the fiscal operations of the government give any consideration to the vastness and significance of these operations. We read of the hundreds of millions of gold and silver in the treasury, but how few persons have any intelligent idea of what is embraced in the nine figures required to describe the liabilities and assets of the government? It is only when the auriferous contents of the treasury vaults are weighed and measured and placed by the side of articles and commodities that are daily handled by the masses that an intelligent comprehension can be obtained by the people of the financial strength of the treasury and the great extent of the government's fiscal operations.

I find by reference to the latest published statement of treasury assets and liabilities that among the assets was \$281,006,317 in gold and nearly \$250,000,000 in silver, including 34,000,000 of trade dollars and fractional coins. Taking up this \$281,000,000 of gold and placing it on scales, I find that the gold held by the treasury weighed 519 tons, and if packed into ordinary carts, one ton to each cart, it would make a procession two miles long, allowing twenty feet of space for the movement of each horse and cart.

The weighing of the silver produces much more interesting results. Running this over the scales I find its weight to be 7,396 tons. Measuring it in carts, as in the case of the gold, the silver now held by the treasury would require the services of 7,396 horses and carts to transport it and would make a procession over twenty-one miles in length.

The surplus about which so much is said in the daily newspapers amounts to nearly \$47,000,000, an increase of \$5,000,000 since July 1. Counted as gold this surplus would weigh eighty-six and one-half tons. Counted as silver it would weigh 1,385 tons.

Each million of gold adds 3,685 pounds to the surplus, and each million of silver adds 8,930 pounds.

Applying cubic measurement to the treasury gold and silver, and piling the two metals on Pennsylvania avenue as cordwood is piled before delivery to the purchaser, I find that the gold would measure thirty-seven cords and the silver 292 cords, and that both would extend from the treasury department to 4 1/2 street, or from the treasury to the pension office in a straight line, and forming a solid wall eight feet high and four feet broad.

Extending these calculations and comparisons to the interest-bearing debt, equally interesting results are obtained. The public debt reached the highest point in August, 1865—just twenty-two years ago—when it was \$2,381,530,295. The general reader will better appreciate the vastness of this sum when informed that it represents 70,156 tons of silver, which would make a procession of carts that would extend from Richmond, Va., to a point twelve miles north of Philadelphia, the distance it would thus cover being 266 miles.

The interest-bearing debt is now (not including the Pacific Railroad bonds), \$1,001,976,850, showing that the sum paid has been \$1,379,553,445, or more than one-half of the total amount, and representing 40,637 tons of silver dollars, which would extend 154 miles if packed in carts containing one ton each.

Reducing these figures to a basis where they may be intelligently comprehended, and that the rapidity with which the government has reduced its bonded debt may be fully realized by the general reader, I find that the reduction has been at the average rate of \$62,000,000 each year, \$5,225,811 each month, \$174,186 each day, \$7,258 each hour, and \$120.47 for every minute of the entire twenty-two years.

Pursuing the calculation to the smallest divisible space of time, the bonded debt of the United States has been decreased at the rate of \$20.97 every second, or for every swing of the pendulum, for the entire period from August 31, 1865, to July 31, 1887.

This is an exhibition of recuperation and material progress on the part of the country and of sterling honesty and integrity on the part of the government and people that is without parallel in the world's history.

Negroes and Sunstroke.

The physicians of the Pennsylvania hospital assert that they have no record of a colored person suffering from sunstroke being admitted to that institution. This is a remarkable fact. It is enough to make white folks envious in this sort of weather.

Most people would imagine that colored people were far less apt to be overcome by the heat than their Caucasian brethren, but it is rather strange to learn that, in a hospital where scores of sunstroke cases are attended, not a single case can be found of a black man sunstruck.

In the first surprise at this information one might imagine that a good way for people to avoid being overcome by the torrid heat of summer would be to make liberal applications of burnt cork to their skins. There is something so simple and easy in this suggestion that, if it were not for appearances, it might be experimented with by the whole population of Philadelphia.

It might if it were not for the fact that the records of other cities, particularly cities in the South, show that negroes are sunstruck. This is rather bewildering. It is, as one may say, dazing. And the conclusion to which it leads is that Philadelphia darkies are peculiarly particular in hot weather to avoid hard work and keep out of the sun.—Philadelphia News.

It is only a question of preference whether you leave your money when you die, or allow your money to leave you while you live.

JEFFERSON DAVIS REPLIES.

Governor Curtin and the Story of the Proposed Assassination.

To the Editor of the New York World: My attention has been called to a letter of ex-Governor Curtin, published in the Herald of the 12th inst., in regard to an alleged complicity on his part with a purpose to assassinate me during the war between the States, and also to a letter from Wilkesbarre, Pa., on the same subject published in the World of the 18th inst. I solicit the use of your columns to make a brief statement of the facts, so far as they are known to me.

Governor Curtin makes two mistakes in his letter. First, that I had made public accusation against him and that I had alleged that he was to pay \$100,000 to a desperado for my assassination. All this, based on a newspaper article purporting to be the report of an "interview" held with me for publication by a newspaper correspondent. Such was not the case. A well-known historian proposed to write my biography, and asked me to give him for that purpose an account of attempts made during the war to assassinate me.

I told him that connection, and for that purpose, that an anonymous letter of warning had been sent to me from Philadelphia, with a request that the governor of Pennsylvania had released from the penitentiary a notorious convict on condition that he would go to the South and assassinate me, and if successful, he was to receive as a reward \$100,000. Through the letter did use the name of Governor Curtin, I emitted it in my statement of the substance of the letter, and as the writer did not state how the money promised was to be raised, I did not attempt to supply the omission. Indeed, it was quite important to me whether it came from a secret service fund, from the private purse of the governor, or was contributed by others who, with like zeal, snuffed the battle from afar and cried havoc.

The anonymous letter acquired an importance it would not otherwise have possessed from the fact that about the time of its receipt, when going to my residence at the usual hour, I saw a man crouching beside the basement wall of the piling of the yard fence and looking intently towards the gate entrance. Instead of proceeding to the gate I turned and went toward the crouching figure. As he was approached, he rose, fled and escaped. The importance thus given to the anonymous letter induced me to include it in the Hon. W. D. Koelb, of Philadelphia, with a request that he would make such inquiry as to him might be practicable to discover the writer, and to verify or disprove the statements.

Governor Curtin's "emphatic contradiction" of the accusations against him pertains not to me, but to the writer of the letter, who is unknown to me, and for whom I have not vouches.

The avowal of Governor Curtin of zeal to maintain the government by honorable warfare, and the denial that he "ever resorted to such means for the conduct of the war," mark a commendable appreciation of the obligations of civilized war, and it is a pity that there should be anything to interrupt the current of his self-laudation. The letter from Wilkesbarre, already referred to, certainly reveals conduct not very different from that alleged by the anonymous letter-writer. It thereby appears that Governor Curtin received an application, apparently from the United States war department, for the release from the Pennsylvania penitentiary of a notorious convict, that he might "be sent over the lines for a specific purpose." On this and other like representations, it appears that an order was issued by the governor for the release of the convict. It is not shown that the governor knew or thought proper to inquire for what special service the general of the army required a convicted criminal, that the fact that he was to be employed at the South was enough to secure compliance with the application. To an average mind intent upon "honorable warfare" the question would naturally have arisen for what proper duty with the army can a convict be particularly qualified? In the absence of information on that point it might have been reasonably supposed that the "specific purpose" was to do an act which a soldier worthy of the name would not perform. Assassination might readily have been supposed to be such "specific purpose," and the application for release have been postponed for further information and refused unless it should be such as would justify compliance by bringing the "purpose" within the pale of "honorable warfare."

Governor Curtin does not say whether this was the first transaction of like kind between himself and the United States war department, but his ready belief that the forged letters were genuine would indicate that it was not a surprising event.

In conclusion, I repeat that, in stating the substance of the anonymous letter received by me and the attendant circumstances, it was not intended to accuse or excuse Governor Curtin; neither was the substance of the letter a newspaper article, and conditions precedent for further investigation were imposed upon its publication even in the proposed biography. Respectfully,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.
Beaufort, Miss., July 30.

A blind man may be in perfect health and yet not be looking well. Terrible to be blind!