

MR. WATSON TALKS.

The Commissioner of Immigration Tells New York Paper

OF NEW STATE DEPARTMENT.

Commissioner Watson Makes a Statement of What He Hopes to Accomplish in Bringing White Labor Here.

By an act of the South Carolina legislature which went into effect on Feb. 26 there was created in the State a department of agriculture, commerce and immigration. E. J. Watson, a representative of the new generation of energetic young business men who are the impelling force back of the recent awakening of southern industries and commercial activity, has been selected by Gov. Heyward as the first commissioner of the new department.

Mr. Watson has been in New York for several days on business connected with his office. This summer he will make a trip to Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Germany, with a view to presenting the advantages of South Carolina as a field for the desirable class of immigrants who come from those countries. Speaking Wednesday of his visit to New York and of the circumstances which led to the creation of the department of which he is the head Mr. Watson said:

"My presence in New York at this time is due to the new conditions that have arisen in the middle south, and it is no unmeaning errand considered in the light of the development of the country. The rapid development of the southern manufacturing and the consequent exodus of the fields of the white tenant farmer class, the demonstration given to the world last fall of the dependency of its cotton manufacturing interests on the south for raw material, not alone in this country but abroad—these and the tendency of the negro to move to the centers of population and thence to the east are the three essentials to be considered.

"It is perhaps a strange and yet not unexpected condition that the very rapid development of the manufacturing industry of the south—particularly in my State—should result in injury to agricultural interests. The explanation, however, is easy. When we went ahead and put nearly 840,000,000 into cotton mills, which could only be operated with white labor for reasons it is not necessary to discuss, we simply robbed our fields of the white tenant farmer class and left the agricultural interests in such a condition as to demand the attention of the State government. Then came a move of Sully and Brown which has revealed to the whole cotton manufacturing world its dependency upon the cotton growing states of this country, accentuating the acute nature of a situation already seen and realized. The farmers fared well and they have profited. Now they realize their power and their opportunity, but they find themselves without the necessary labor, and intelligent labor they must have. They consequently want something and want it quickly.

"Another phase of this situation is the negro question. Our farmers have always had plenty of negro labor on their places. Today they are crying for labor with which to work their crops. Having lost the white tenant farmer for the reasons assigned, they have suffered the additional partial loss of the negro laborer. This is due to the fact that the negro's tendency in our State at least, in the last few years has been, first, to seek the larger centers of population and commerce. In the cities he finds himself poorly clad, irregularly and ill fed and a natural victim of immorality—the consequent sufferer from disease which tend to balance the death and birth rate. Again, his tendency is to seek railroad construction camps and to move north and east. The exemplification of this can be most strikingly found in Washington and Baltimore, and even here in New York, the increase in the negro population in the two first named cities having been reached in the last two or three years.

"All of these things have combined, together with the appearance of the boll weevil in Texas, to awaken the agricultural interests of the South to a realization of the fact that something must be done. The great need is white settlers from this country and abroad. My State has seen the situation, and that is why I am here. Our farmers know that the boll weevil, unless an insect to destroy him is discovered, is likely to cross the Mississippi at any moment and do what he has done this year, with the additional feature that the effect on prices will be permanent. They know that if the weevil does come prices will remain high, and that the danger of the pest is an element in the situation. They realize that they want diversified and intensified farming, and, knowing this, they have succeeded in establishing, near the heart of the State, diversification farm No. 1, by the federal government, under the boll weevil appropriation.

"Further, knowing the need of intelligent labor, the State has established its department of agriculture, commerce and immigration, the head of which I have been placed for four years, with the view of inducing desirable investments and settlers from north European and American points to come to South Carolina—the real garden spot of the world, possessing a soil and climate producing some crop year round. We have thousands of acres of land lying idle at this time, and it is the province of the new department to bring about their development.

"The department has been fashioned upon the best features of national and State departments of agriculture, and the scope is broad enough to admit of its handling any conditions that may arise affecting industrial development.

"I am here now to set the ball in motion toward getting that which we so greatly need—intelligent white labor of Saxon origin. The work, so far as is of constructive character, but I trust it will be prolific of genuine results. I am dealing with all having

WANT TO COME HERE.

Views of a New Englander Who Wants His People

TO SETTLE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

One Among Many Who Wish to Settle in a More Temperate Climate. A Sincere Yankee Declaration.

To the Editor of The State: I have received two letters from my friend, Mr. Howard, who is deeply interested in getting Massachusetts men to settle in South Carolina.

In his letter of March 23d Mr. Howard says: "Ware, Mass., March 23, 1904. Col. John P. Thomas, Charleston, S. C. Dear Sir: The Columbia State has published your editorial of the 19th. I am inclined to think Mr. Watson thinks you and I have too much to say. At any rate he don't condescend to acknowledge our good intentions. I see M. V. Richards has sent a man to Columbia in the interest of Southern railroad. We no doubt will see the workings of the bureau of immigration in good time if we only will have patience. Mr. Watson is no doubt working his brains. The class of people he has allowed to come in last year are a curse to any country, and are continually dumped over here—to the benefit of the country they leave, and a curse to the one they come to. If you don't believe it visit any of the manufacturing cities of Massachusetts. I am, Very truly yours, W. V. HOWARD."

In his letter of March 24th Mr. Howard says: "My Dear Colonel: I sent you a few clippings yesterday and I see in one of last night's paper I thought I would send you today, with my views of it. I have advertised my property for the last three weeks in 19 papers, viz: Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Worcester Gazette, Springfield Republican, Springfield Union, Springfield Homestead, Hartford Courant, Ware River News and Barre Gazette. Yes, 19 papers, and I have had but one man to call to look at my farm and some six letters of inquiry. The trouble in New England is the cold winter for me; that is the one great reason I want a change and I can't see why the west part of South Carolina is not an ideal place for me, a full blooded, dyed-in-the-wool Yankee, and lots more of us who have always been out of our work and are willing to let our arms out if we can come with the right hand of fellowship extended.

I know that there are some people in South Carolina who look upon the New England Yankee as tricky, sharp and always looking for the almighty dollar. This may be so to an extent, but these years as to the Yankee being a "negro lover" is all bosh; the class of people I would like to see have a chance to better themselves want none of it. There may be in and around Harvard college and Beacon street a few so-called "nigger lovers," but they want them at arms length. Now in my town of 9,000 people there has never been in the past 50 years but one colored family. Our people outside of the cities know nothing of them and I want nothing of them, unless they would like to see the colored man as long as the Great Creator has put him on the earth, give a chance to have a home and country and some of God's blessings that are given to others; and the most of the people, that is, the class I have requested you to present to the chief of the bureau of immigration for his consideration, would much prefer this government (instead of the millions that have been blown in foolishly and needlessly in the Philippines on a lot of people who want no part of us, and 90 per cent. of the people of this country want no part of the colored family) to the best of every colored family a home of 25 or 50 acres of land in what we call Central America, Cuba or Jamaica. Give the colored man a country of his own and a flag; establish him on his land with proper looking after and advice till his children can have the benefit of schools. That the colored people can live in this part of the world and a white man would have a hard time of it, is well known; that is the way the Yankee who works for a living would solve the negro problem.

My dear colonel, I started to tell you how I was trying to sell out here and don't have the success I could wish; the fact is there are 1,000 farms for sale to one buyer; farms are in a real scarcity in New England. I intend to write you from time to time anyway in order to keep posted as to immigration, etc. I am, Very truly yours, W. V. HOWARD."

This is one clipping Mr. Howard sends: "The Hartford Post lightly says: 'Four Waterbury hotels were plumed full the other night when a colored clergyman applied for a room in one after another of them.' It is for this reason that so many northerners see fit to protest against the introduction of Jim Crow cars in the south. They have an easier method here."—Springfield Republican.

"This is another: 'Tables of figures showing the immigration of foreigners into New England during 1903 have just been completed by Rev. Joel S. Ives of Hartford, who for the past four years has conducted a census of the foreign population of the six States in behalf of the Congregational Home Mission society. According to his figures, the influx of foreigners last year was as follows: Maine, 1,997; New Hampshire, 1,861; Vermont, 1,611; Massachusetts, 65,757; Rhode Island, 9,467; and Connecticut, 21,813, a total of 102,506. Southern Europe supplied a great number of these immigrants, for of the total 28,151 were Italians and 11,877 Poles.'—Springfield Republican.

The third clipping I give is from the same paper, the Springfield Republican. The south wants white immigration, but is denied it; and why that

HORRIBLE DEEDS

Told by a Presbyterian Missionary to the Congo Free State.

THE CANNIBAL ARMY MURDERS

Innocent Women and Children Who Are Captured to Show that Work of Raiding Villages is Well Done.

Dr. W. M. Morrison, Southern Presbyterian missionary to the Congo Free State, in an address at Louisville, Ky., gave an impressive recital of alleged barbarities practiced on the natives of Congo by the authorities, and of the obstacles thrown in the way of their correction by the officials.

"I lived with these people seven years, and know what I am talking about. King Leopold has there a native cannibal army of twenty thousand men, officered by white Belgians and armed with repeating rifles. They are men who present the worst and most savage type of natives, caught and carried far from their homes and forced into military service. In turn this soldiery is used to compel the natives to bring in enormous tribute of ivory and rubber. It is worth nothing that the King of Belgium is today is reputed to be the largest dealer in ivory and rubber in the world.

"As a result of forced military service and labor, great and unspeakable cruelties are practiced on the natives. I have seen five thousand fleeing to the forests to escape the cannibal soldiers scouring through the forests catching men wanted by the government as laborers and taking the captives away with ropes tied around their necks.

"Raids upon villages are constantly made, some are killed, others sold into captivity and others forced into labor and military service. One can buy all the slaves wanted for ten or fifteen dollars each. In these raids innocent women and children are killed or captured. Their hands are cut off to be taken back to the Belgian officers to show that the work has been well done. On one of these raids near the mission stations, one of our missionaries counted eighty hands cut off, drying by a fire to be taken to an officer and forty-five dead lying near.

"The Belgian government make a stereotyped denial of all charges. I have seen personally the Governor of the Congo Free State and have been in the palace of the King of Belgium; neither will do anything. The British government is interested in the situation. Consul Roger Casement, of the English and American representative to Congo, has just made a tour of investigation. His report is now in the hands of the government at Washington and presents a most deplorable situation."

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Knife in the Brain. At New Hasan, Conn., a portion of a long thin knife blade, which had been imbedded more than twenty years in his skull, penetrating an inch into the brain, was removed from the head of Christopher Osborn by Dr. M. J. Adams. The patient is a negro, 20 years old. He is employed by Prof. J. M. Weir, of Yale. According to Osborn's history of the knife blade, he quarreled with another negro, who struck him in the head with a knife. The blade broke off and the steel close to the skull. Osborn was sent to jail for his share in the fight, but recovered and suffered no inconvenience until a few weeks ago, when he began to have convulsions. They grew in frequency, until last week he had them every half hour and paralysis began. Dr. Adams says the man will recover.

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SHOT BY CONSTABLES.

They Were Assaulted by One White Man and Two Negroes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

Official Programme of the Meeting to Be Held in Columbia.

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Official Programme of the Meeting to Be Held in Columbia.

Mr. William E. Pelham of Newberry, secretary of the State Sunday School convention, has issued the programme for the twenty-seventh annual State convention which meets in Columbia on May 2nd. The convention will be held in the Washington Street Methodist church and will be attended by a large number of Sunday school workers from all parts of the State.

The programme is as follows: Monday evening, May 2.—8.30. Devotional and song service; 8.45, address by the president, Prof. E. H. Hughes, of Greenville; 9.30, address, "The Sunday School's Call for Men," by Rev. B. W. Spilman of North Carolina; enrollment of members; appointment of committee on nomination of officers. Tuesday morning, May 3.—9.00. Devotional and song service by F. F. Whilden; 9.30, primary teaching by Miss Minnie Macfate of Winthrop college; 10.15, open conference and questions; 10.30, "Teacher Trainings," by Dr. George B. Cramer, president of Newberry college; 11.30, open conference and questions; 12.00, "The Superintendent," Rev. B. W. Spilman; 12.30, Conference and questions. Tuesday afternoon, May 3.—3.30. Devotional exercises and song service; 4.00, practical primary work, Miss Minnie Macfate, before a class; 4.30, report of officers; 5.00, "An Amateur with a Blackboard," Rev. B. W. Spilman of North Carolina. Tuesday evening, May 3.—8.30. Devotional exercises and song service, Rev. E. H. Hughes; 8.45, "Christ as a Teacher," Rev. James A. B. Scherer, Ph. D., Charleston; 9.45, "A Study of a Bible Character for Sunday School Teachers," Rev. B. W. Spilman. Wednesday morning, May 4.—8.30. Devotional exercises and song service, Rev. J. P. Knox; 9.00, "How to Enlist and Hold Young Men," Rev. W. B. Duncan, Laurens; 10.00, conference and questions; 10.30, "A Look Ahead," William E. Pelham, chairman executive committee; 11.00, "The Question as a Factor in Teaching," Rev. B. W. Spilman; 12.00, business session. Wednesday afternoon, May 4.—3.30. Devotional exercises and song service; 4.00, reports of departments: (a) executive committee, (b) treasurer, (c) superintendent primary department, (d) home department. Wednesday evening, May 4.—8.30. Devotional exercises and song service; 8.45, "The Teacher Getting Ready for Next Sunday," Rev. B. W. Spilman; 9.30, "Christ the Great Teacher," His Questions and Methods," Dr. H. N. Snyder, president Wofford college; adjournment.

The Sunday School association is inter-denominational; its object is to build up the Sunday school cause in South Carolina. Its present aim is to organize every county in South Carolina. Every wide-awake and progressive Sunday school of South Carolina may send delegates. Pastors, superintendents, teachers, workers, all are eligible. The officers of the organization are the following: Prof. E. Z. Hughes, Greenville, President; John F. Tolbert, Laurens, vice president; Prof. B. W. Gesteiger, Spartanburg, Secretary; Rev. W. J. Herbert, Columbia, treasurer; H. E. Revenel, Spartanburg, superintendent home department; Mrs. M. A. Carlisle, Newberry, superintendent primary department; executive committee, William E. Pelham, chairman, Newberry; Rev. T. H. Law, D. D., Spartanburg; J. E. Ellerbe, Esq., Sellers; Rev. J. W. Shell, Spartanburg; S. B. Ezell, Esq., Spartanburg; Rev. W. B. Duncan, Laurens; Dr. E. C. Jones, Newberry; Rev. George A. Wright, Newberry; H. E. Ravenel, Esq., Spartanburg.

Stole the Mormon's Wives. Prospectors from the lower Sierra Madre Mountains of Mexico, southwest of El Paso, bring the story of a raid made by Guan Colorado, alias "John Redhead," upon Don Felipe, a newly formed Mormon colony. The noted bandit and his band pillaged the settlement, carrying away three of Elder Hiram Johnson's wives, one of which is the favorite of his large household. A posse of Mexican rural police and a squad of Mormons, who as a vigilance committee, style themselves "avenging angels," pursued the bandits for thirty-six hours and finally surprised them in the fastness of the Sierra Madre Mountains. A fight took place in which two of the outlaws were wounded. The band fled, leaving the women. They had been the settlement and his band pillaged a considerable amount of industrial treasure was found, which it is believed, was stolen from a pack train recently.

Great Trust Grower. Unquestionably Theodore Roosevelt is the greatest friend the trusts ever had, judging from the figures. Under eight years of Cleveland \$290,000,000 worth of industrial trusts were formed, under McKinley \$2,200,000,000, while under Roosevelt the capitalization of these concerns reached the fabulous sum of \$3,670,000,000. Never in the history of the world have the trusts flourished in such rank luxuriance as they have under the benign influence of Abdul Roosevelt.

Had None to Cut. The House of Representatives in Washington was considering a bill to prohibit the docking of horses' tails. Congressman Perkins was speaking in support of the measure when he was interrupted by Mr. Cooper of Wisconsin, who asked: "Why does anybody dock a horse's tail?" Mr. Perkins replied: "Chiefly because it looks a great deal better. Why do you cut your hair instead of having it down over your shoulders?" The humor of this reply if any, lies in the fact that Mr. Cooper is about as bald as a turnip.

A Foolish Denyer Man. In order that she may get photographs of the face of a man in the greatest manner for reproduction in a realistic painting, Mrs. Josephine Devel