

THE COTTON CROP.

The Ginners Make Their Reports to the Government.

THE CROP APPEARS TO BE LARGE.

The Department of Agriculture Has Instituted a New Scheme for Getting at the Cotton Crop Figures.

The census bureau on the cotton ginned from the 1902 crop up to and including Dec. 13 last, has 8,311,835 bales, irrespective of shape or weight, equal to 8,905,503, according to the commercial counting. This is 90.2 per cent of the crop.

The following is the number of ginners reporting in the several States and territories: United States, 39,194; Alabama, 3,889; Arkansas, 2,510; Florida, 284; Georgia, 5,040; Indian Territory, 128; Kentucky, 3; Louisiana, 2; Mississippi, 4,276; Missouri, 79; North Carolina, 2,683; Oklahoma, 218; South Carolina, 3,187; Tennessee, 813; Texas, 4,542; Virginia, 109.

Following is the number of bales of cotton ginned to and including Dec. 13, 1902: United States, 8,311,835; Alabama, 896,991; Arkansas, 768,961; Florida, 54,143; Georgia, 1,376,509; Indian Territory, 472,042; Kentucky, 1,027; Louisiana, 670,480; Mississippi, 135,557; Missouri, 39,185; North Carolina, 517,068; Oklahoma, 163,190; South Carolina, 863,989; Tennessee, 272,133; Texas, 2,167,472; Virginia, 12,557.

Following is the ginners' estimate as to the quantity to be ginned from this crop after Dec. 13: United States, 1,097,771; Alabama, 65,168; Arkansas, 149,715; Florida, 6,598; Georgia, 66,714; Indian Territory, 52,831; Kentucky, 150; Louisiana, 159,908; Mississippi, 225,150; Missouri, 3,142; North Carolina, 28,232; Oklahoma, 29,568; South Carolina, 44,754; Tennessee, 34,109; Texas, 188,968; Virginia, 2,491.

Following is the canvassing agents' estimate of the per cent of the crop ginned to Dec. 13: United States, 90.2; Alabama, 91.2; Arkansas, 85.1; Florida, 87.9; Georgia, 95.4; Indian Territory, 82.2; Kentucky, 87.8; Louisiana, 84.3; North Carolina, 94.9; Oklahoma, 91.3; South Carolina, 96.4; Tennessee, 88.8; Texas, 91.7; Virginia, 82.0.

The above statistics of the quantity of cotton ginned to December 13th are expressed in bales as pressed at the gineries, irrespective of shape or weight. In the total of 8,311,835 bales there are 812,661 round bales averaging from 240 to 300 pounds each. Counting such round bales as half bales, as is the custom in the commercial community, the total ginned to December 13th is 8,905,503.

The ginners have not yet returned their bale weights for this crop, but 40 cotton compress companies distributed throughout the cotton states advise this office that they compressed and actually weighed from the growth of 1902 up to December 13th, 1,469,434 bales averaging each 503.8 pounds gross. Using this weight as the average for square bales for round bales 273 pounds the average obtained from the weight returns of the home offices of the companies such patients, the equivalent number of 500 pound bales ginned to December 13th is found to be 8,974,722. Deducing the weight of the bagging and ties 223 pounds per square bale the number of equivalent 500 pound bales, net weight, is found to be 8,900,758.

By two most thorough canvasses this season 32,528 gineries, active and idle, have been located, reported, of which number 30,194 have been operated for this crop. In their December canvass the local special agents ascertained the quantity of cotton ginned from the beginning of the season to and including December 13th and also secured from each of the active ginners his estimate of the quantity of cotton to be ginned by his establishment after December 13. The estimate of the percentage of the crop ginned is based on the estimates of 626 canvassing agents, who were instructed to confine their estimates to the territories canvassed by them and to the knowledge gained by them. One estimate therefore serves as a check against the other. According to the estimate of the ginners to 2 per cent of the crop remained to be ginned after December 13, while according to the estimate of the canvassing agents the percentage was 9.8. Applying these percentages and the general average bale weight obtained from and square bales, the crop according to the ginners is 9,990,300 bales, and according to the canvassers 9,954,106 bales of an average gross weight of 500 pounds.

The census office assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of these estimates. This report will be followed by a third and final report at the end of the ginning season, about March 16th, which will distribute the crop by counties, segregate upland and sea island cottons, and give weight of bale.

IT IS NOT GIBBERISH.

In giving out the report Director Merriam made the following statement: "It seems important to again state, in connection with these statistics of the cotton crop, that they are not as they relate to the bales of cotton ginned to December last, they involve no gibberish at any point, no estimate by anybody, and no uncertainty of any kind. They represent the exact number of bales of cotton that have passed through the gineries."

It has been done by the census office's at liberty to examine the whole process adopted by the ginners in handling these returns. The returns represent the ginning operations of every ginning establishment which has handled any portion of the growth of 1902. The report is made at a time, so near the close of the ginning season as to permit a very close approximation of the actual growth of the year, in 500 pound

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Something to Note.

A quite notable utterance is quoted from Prof. W. H. Council, of Normal, Ala. "Although," he says, "I came up from the other side of the food, and drank the dregs of the cup of slavery, still I honor the gray-haired veteran of the 'lost cause,' and I feel that when they pass away and when their old slaves have passed away, in a measure the power of the balance wheel of Southern society will be gone." Northern exchanges please copy.

NEGROES IN OFFICE.

Some Sensible Remarks on the Subject by a Northern Paper.

It is an error for the United States government or any of its departments says the Philadelphia Ledger, to impose upon a community a local official who is personally offensive or distasteful to that community. There is no theory, no abstract ideal, involved in this. The postmaster of a town is simply a person designated to transact certain business for the inhabitants and he must be a person acceptable to them. Their right to be served agreeably is far superior to any individual's right to hold a public office. The appointments of negroes to offices in the Southern States have very generally been based upon an inversion of this rule upon the negro's right to hold office, rather than upon the community's right to be fitly served. It is not pretended that in the average Southern town the negroes form the most intelligent and trustworthy portion of the population, from whom the United States government can best select its representatives. In many towns, no doubt, they are more numerous than the whites; but the chief officials of the place are rightly expected to be somewhat above the general average, nearer to the higher plane of intelligent citizenship. The selection of negroes for office, therefore, is plainly influenced by political considerations, in preference to considerations of efficient service or of the comfort and satisfaction of the community. This is, both a theoretical and a practical error. No man possesses any personal right to hold an office simply by reason of his color. If he is not acceptable to the people he is expected to serve, the government is not called upon to impose him upon them because he is a negro, any more than it would be because he had red hair. It may be said that the people have no more right to object to him on one account than on the other. While this may be true, the fact remains that they do object. On various grounds not necessary to discuss here most Southern communities object to negroes in office, while they have had no occasion to consider objections based on other physical distinctions. It may be an unreasonable prejudice, but it exists, and it is not peculiar to the South. The correction of social prejudices, reasonable or unreasonable, is not a function of the United States government. Its function is to have the public business transacted in a manner to give the greatest possible satisfaction to the people concerned.

Calamities of the Year.

The year 1902 bids fair to be known in the records of time as the volcanic and earthquake year, and this contention has had its full share of the disastrous results of these convulsions. The disturbances began last May, and from that time to this there has not been a month in which they have not been active. In South America, Central America, the islands of the Caribbean Sea, Guatemala, Mexico and Alaska, there have been violent eruptions of volcanoes, involving large loss of life and widespread destruction of property, while many volcanoes, long supposed to be extinct, have made sympathetic efforts, threatening to cause general alarm in their vicinity. The eruption of Mont Pelée and Mont Soufrière were the most violent, burying the country for miles around in ashes and destroying 45,000 lives. To these must be added 7,625 more lost at other places, making a total of 52,625 victims of volcanic fury.

Volcanic eruptions have been accompanied by seismic disturbances in various parts of the world. Upon this continent Mexico and Guatemala have been the chief sufferers, 1,300 lives having been lost in these two countries. Few disasters from this cause have occurred in Europe, but Turkistan, in Western Asia, has been shaken up three times. In February 5,000 lives were lost at Shamakur, in the Caucasus region; in September, 1,100 in the same region, and in December, 5,000 at Andjan, which is in the eastern part of Turkistan. In addition to these last few times the numbers have been left homeless. The entire number of lives lost from this cause is 12,427.

Not satisfied with volcanic disturbances and earthquakes, nature has been busy with its strange shapes of cyclones, typhoons and hurricanes every month in the year. They count 4,992 victims. Nature has also let loose floods, sweeping away 8,032 victims, China, as usual, being the principal sufferer. Free, that other element of nature, claims a long list of victims, though it is hardly fair to charge to nature what clearly is a lamentable human negligence and carelessness, as was shown, for instance, three times in this city when the St. Luke's hospital, the glass case works and the Lincoln hotel burned, involving the loss of 37 lives. Last year 1,593 persons have been reported as having lost their lives in this country by fire, but the real number must have been greater. In large fires in Europe 1,007 lives have been reported as lost. The number of casualties of this kind in Europe is much smaller than in this country, as they build more securely over there, and consequently have fewer destructive fires.

The general trend of fire waste in this country is in the direction of increase, and the saddest feature of it all is that the loss of life by fire also increases every year. From all other causes a little more than 80,000 persons have perished in 1902. While this is not as large a number of fatalities as has occurred in some other years, the destruction is phenomenal, in that nearly two-thirds of it has been occasioned by volcanic and seismic disturbances.

Painful to Record.

A dispatch from Laurens to The State says Mr. Hillary Moseley, aged 63, died Thursday night at the county home. He was a native of Laurens county and at the outbreak of the Civil War he promptly volunteered, enlisting with the South Carolina Guards Company A, Third S. C. Regiment. He served gallantly to the close of hostilities. He was well connected in Laurens and Greenville counties. His health failing a few years ago he became a ward of Laurens county.

The Unloaded Pistol.

The Spartanburg Journal says Win Bishop, of Inman, 23 years old, died in Asheville Saturday as the result of a pistol wound accidentally inflicted by a 15-year old boy, John Seay. The latter was playing with a pistol in Bishop's room and not knowing the weapon was loaded he snapped it with fatal results. The remains of Bishop were sent to Inman for burial.

At a Meeting of the Orangeburg Bar.

At a meeting of the Orangeburg Bar yesterday Judge Jas. F. Izler was unanimously endorsed for Associate Justice and a committee appointed to present the action of the bar to the Legislature. The Times and Democrat heartily endorsed the action of the bar, and hope that its action will be endorsed by the Legislature in the election of Judge Izler.

One of the most munificent gifts of the Christmas season was that of William L. Elkins, of Philadelphia, to the Masonic fraternity. He will erect and endow, at a cost of \$1,000,000 a home for the orphaned daughters of Masons. The gift is said to be the largest ever made to any fraternal organization in the world. Details have not yet been completed, but the work of erecting the new home will be begun in a short time.

MANUEL Range, editor of Libertas Manila, has been sentenced to six months at hard labor and a fine of \$2,000 for libeling Gen. Bell in his paper. It seems that Spanish Methods are to be kept up in the Philippines.

Men and Women

who are in need of the most skillful treatment, should consult Dr. Hathaway at once, as he is recognized as the leading and most successful specialist. You are safe in placing your case in his hands, as he is the longest established and has the best reputation. He cures where others fail; there is no patchwork of experimenting in his treatment. Personal attention by Dr. Hathaway. Also, special attention by his associate physicians when necessary, which no other office has. If you can not call, write for free booklets and question blanks. Mention your trouble. Everything strictly confidential. J. Newton Hathaway, M. D.

Killed His Brother.

A special to The Atlanta Journal from Gainesville says: Because his brother refused to give him a cigarette paper, Pink Grove, a young man living at Grove Park, Fla., plunged a knife into his brother's heart, killing him instantly. Groves was arrested and placed in jail.

Feast on Horse Flesh.

Six hundred people sat down Thursday night to the most remarkable banquet that ever has been given in Berlin, Germany. The dishes consisted entirely of horse meat and were served in various forms. The society for the prevention of cruelty to animals issued the invitations to the dinner, which was given for the purpose of demonstrating the nourishing and palatable qualities of horse meat, thereby causing increased consumption of the meat and a ready market for old horses. This would prevent the owners from working the poor animals to death, as well feed specimens would bring good prices. The bill of fare consisted of horse soup, pickled horse tongue, fillet of horse and roast horse. All of the dishes were nicely prepared and were greatly relished. The presiding officers of the society, Prory Councilor von Seefeld, said 30,000 horses had been eaten in Berlin last year and that he hoped for a large increase in the future. Many prominent members of the parliament and of the city council were present at the banquet.

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The year 1902 bids fair to be known in the records of time as the volcanic and earthquake year, and this contention has had its full share of the disastrous results of these convulsions. The disturbances began last May, and from that time to this there has not been a month in which they have not been active. In South America, Central America, the islands of the Caribbean Sea, Guatemala, Mexico and Alaska, there have been violent eruptions of volcanoes, involving large loss of life and widespread destruction of property, while many volcanoes, long supposed to be extinct, have made sympathetic efforts, threatening to cause general alarm in their vicinity. The eruption of Mont Pelée and Mont Soufrière were the most violent, burying the country for miles around in ashes and destroying 45,000 lives. To these must be added 7,625 more lost at other places, making a total of 52,625 victims of volcanic fury.

Volcanic eruptions have been accompanied by seismic disturbances in various parts of the world. Upon this continent Mexico and Guatemala have been the chief sufferers, 1,300 lives having been lost in these two countries. Few disasters from this cause have occurred in Europe, but Turkistan, in Western Asia, has been shaken up three times. In February 5,000 lives were lost at Shamakur, in the Caucasus region; in September, 1,100 in the same region, and in December, 5,000 at Andjan, which is in the eastern part of Turkistan. In addition to these last few times the numbers have been left homeless. The entire number of lives lost from this cause is 12,427.

Not satisfied with volcanic disturbances and earthquakes, nature has been busy with its strange shapes of cyclones, typhoons and hurricanes every month in the year. They count 4,992 victims. Nature has also let loose floods, sweeping away 8,032 victims, China, as usual, being the principal sufferer. Free, that other element of nature, claims a long list of victims, though it is hardly fair to charge to nature what clearly is a lamentable human negligence and carelessness, as was shown, for instance, three times in this city when the St. Luke's hospital, the glass case works and the Lincoln hotel burned, involving the loss of 37 lives. Last year 1,593 persons have been reported as having lost their lives in this country by fire, but the real number must have been greater. In large fires in Europe 1,007 lives have been reported as lost. The number of casualties of this kind in Europe is much smaller than in this country, as they build more securely over there, and consequently have fewer destructive fires.

The general trend of fire waste in this country is in the direction of increase, and the saddest feature of it all is that the loss of life by fire also increases every year. From all other causes a little more than 80,000 persons have perished in 1902. While this is not as large a number of fatalities as has occurred in some other years, the destruction is phenomenal, in that nearly two-thirds of it has been occasioned by volcanic and seismic disturbances.

Painful to Record.

A dispatch from Laurens to The State says Mr. Hillary Moseley, aged 63, died Thursday night at the county home. He was a native of Laurens county and at the outbreak of the Civil War he promptly volunteered, enlisting with the South Carolina Guards Company A, Third S. C. Regiment. He served gallantly to the close of hostilities. He was well connected in Laurens and Greenville counties. His health failing a few years ago he became a ward of Laurens county.

The Unloaded Pistol.

The Spartanburg Journal says Win Bishop, of Inman, 23 years old, died in Asheville Saturday as the result of a pistol wound accidentally inflicted by a 15-year old boy, John Seay. The latter was playing with a pistol in Bishop's room and not knowing the weapon was loaded he snapped it with fatal results. The remains of Bishop were sent to Inman for burial.

At a Meeting of the Orangeburg Bar.

At a meeting of the Orangeburg Bar yesterday Judge Jas. F. Izler was unanimously endorsed for Associate Justice and a committee appointed to present the action of the bar to the Legislature. The Times and Democrat heartily endorsed the action of the bar, and hope that its action will be endorsed by the Legislature in the election of Judge Izler.

One of the most munificent gifts of the Christmas season was that of William L. Elkins, of Philadelphia, to the Masonic fraternity. He will erect and endow, at a cost of \$1,000,000 a home for the orphaned daughters of Masons. The gift is said to be the largest ever made to any fraternal organization in the world. Details have not yet been completed, but the work of erecting the new home will be begun in a short time.

MANUEL Range, editor of Libertas Manila, has been sentenced to six months at hard labor and a fine of \$2,000 for libeling Gen. Bell in his paper. It seems that Spanish Methods are to be kept up in the Philippines.

Men and Women

who are in need of the most skillful treatment, should consult Dr. Hathaway at once, as he is recognized as the leading and most successful specialist. You are safe in placing your case in his hands, as he is the longest established and has the best reputation. He cures where others fail; there is no patchwork of experimenting in his treatment. Personal attention by Dr. Hathaway. Also, special attention by his associate physicians when necessary, which no other office has. If you can not call, write for free booklets and question blanks. Mention your trouble. Everything strictly confidential. J. Newton Hathaway, M. D.

Killed His Brother.