

"A HAPPY NEW YEAR."

Once more we offer that compliment of the season to you, with the hope that each week the coming of THE PEOPLE to your homes may be welcome and helpful...

But as each man is the pilot of his own life, each woman the spinner and weaver of her own fortune, so the fulfillment of the wish, the sowing and keeping and harvesting a crop of happiness is the work of one's own hands...

So let us live one day at a time, taking stock of its good and evil when its labors are completed. No more than that can be required, no more than that can be well accomplished...

THE ONE AND ONLY WAY.

Cotton is bringing now twenty dollars a bale less than it did three months ago.

The farmers of the South can, if they will, in the next three months lift the price back to the level from which it dropped.

And the way to do so, in this paper's opinion is:

- 1st Quit ginning and keep the seed cotton on hand under safe shelter. 2nd Decide to reduce acreage this year, and to make a big cut in the quantity of commercial fertilizers used.

3d Let each farmer write a letter or postal card to his county paper, signed with his full name, stating to what reduction of acreage and fertilizers he is pledged.

4th Let the news-papers summarize those statements, and keep the letters or cards for future use.

And if it shall appear by the first of April next that the farmers are going to make a wholesale reduction in the use of commercial fertilizers the cotton buying world will know that another thirteen million bale crop will not be made this year, and the price will move back to the ten cents neighborhood.

How many farmer readers of THE PEOPLE will take this advice?

Editorials urging and resolutions pledging a reduction in cotton acreage will have no early effect, even if taken solemnly by every farmer, white and black, from Richmond to the Rio Grande, for the reasons that the cotton buying world knows the impossibility of united action.

Besides the South has now as many acres, as many mules, as many laborers as last year and human nature will not allow them to be idle.

But if the fertilizer men report on April 1st next that they have sold only half the goods that they did last year the spinners will open their eyes wide to the fact that the farmers mean business and have recovered from cotton craziness.

As we see it the reduction of fertilizer purchases is the only real and reasonable remedy.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TEXAS.

Col. I. W. Youmans was in town Thursday night and Friday and gave us a better understanding of the Boll Weevil problem than all the newspapers put together have done.

While in attendance at the Shreveport Convention he not only listened to the speeches but mixed up with the best people of the Southwest, and got both facts.

In central and southern Texas the boll weevil is master of the situation, monarch of all he surveys. Last year he cut down the Texas crop three quarters of a million bales.

But for his ravages the crop would have footed up four million bales in Texas, Indian Territory &c.

Many farmers and negroes have moved from the boll weevil section higher north and west and gone to cotton raising on new lands.

In the Brazos country where a bale to the acre was the old time regular rule it will now take fifteen or more acres to make a bale.

The boll weevil seems to it that to cotton feature after July. To show how disastrous its ravages he was reliably told that white women of culture and a few years ago well to do had to quit their homes and go outside the weevil territory to pick cotton to get the means to buy food.

Results in the towns have fallen to one-fourth of former rates and many stores are unoccupied. People who have not run from the insect enemy are trying to make livings by raising truck, grain &c.

WEDDING BELLS AT APPELTON.

The usual serenity of one little village was converted into a scene of merriment and good cheer on the morning of the 28th ult. At half past ten o'clock about sixty guests assembled at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Walker to partake of the "sumptuous wedding breakfast" celebrating the nuptials of their youngest daughter, Miss Lucy Allen, and Mr. Murray H. Maik's.

The dining room was artistically decorated with evergreens, ferns and palms. The table literally groined under its burden of all the good things which the taste of the most fastidious epicurean could crave.

The wedding March pealed forth, a stately air, in the presence of an immense assemblage of friends. This popular young couple were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. The ushers were Messrs A. Hill and B. H. Miller of Appleton.

The bride, a vision of loveliness, in an elaborate costume of blue velvet, bearing an exquisite bouquet of bride's roses, came in on the arm of her father, Mr. N. M. Walker, preceded by her maid of honor, Miss Marie Keel of Bondeville.

The groom, a young man of fine physique, in a suit of blue velvet, bearing an exquisite bouquet of bride's roses, came in on the arm of her father, Mr. N. M. Walker, preceded by her maid of honor, Miss Marie Keel of Bondeville.

The young couple, immediately after receiving the congratulations of their friends, left on the 2:30 train to take an extensive Southern tour, visiting several places of interest in Florida, Panama, and the Gulf Coast.

The bride is a bright and lovely young lady whose beauty and strength of character has won the admiration of all her friends.

The numerous and costly wedding presents received attest to the popularity of the young couple.

They will receive their friends at their home in Blackville after January 15th. Non Pareil.

SLUMP IN COTTON.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.—The Census Bureau today issued a report giving the quantity of cotton ginned in 737 counties up to December 13th last to have been 11,986,614 running bales, which is the equivalent of 11,848,113 commercial bales.

The report to the same date last year covered 812 counties, as against 737 this year. The report for the present year covers the output of 29,657 ginneries, while 29,527 were included in the report for 1902.

The product of the different states for this year in running bales, reported to Dec. 13th, is as follows:

- Alabama 1,299,915; Arkansas 768,186; Florida 75,283; Georgia 1,765,797; Indian Territory 433,755; Kentucky 1,402,154; Louisiana 870,518; Mississippi 1,493,458; Missouri 36,417; North Carolina 667,193; Oklahoma 294,041; South Carolina 1,083,750; Tennessee 271,253; Texas 2,982,419; Virginia 14,900.

THE EASTERN WAR.

After a most heroic defense against attacks by land and sea Port Arthur surrendered on Monday to the victorious Japanese.

Early in the past year before any declaration of war had been made the Japanese fleet made a night attack on the Russian war ships, sinking some and disabling others.

At the beginning of the attack the Russian Garrison consisted of about 40,000 men. The Russian engineers declared the position impregnable to any attack.

Mountains were crowned with forts loaded with the best guns of modern invention, yet with fanatical bravery the Japanese have won it, but with appalling loss of life.

It will never be known how many soldiers of the Mikado perished there, but it has been said that at least 100,000 have rendered the mountain sides with their life blood.

The surrender came through the exhaustion of the defenders who had been reduced to 15,000 in number. They and their wives had resisted the advances of their enemies, with little ammunition and great scarcity of food.

In their last defenses the Russians would go to sleep standing with their guns in their hands. Before surrendering the Russian remaining war ships in the harbor were blown up.

The success of the Japanese was secured more by artillery fire and tunneling the solid rock under the forts and blowing them up with tons of dynamite than by rifle fire.

The Japanese hope that this success will bring an early peace, but the Russian bear is still unconquered.

THE COTTON SITUATION.

Year after year there has been a regular increase in cotton acreage and the application of commercial fertilizers. Improved implements and methods of cultivation have made labor more useful and productive than in old times.

Unfavorable seasons have kept the yield down to about the needs of the world until last year when an enormous crop of thirteen million bales leaves a surplus of more than two million bales for the mills of the world which have no use for before this year's crop is put on the market.

The decline in price is largely caused by the belief of the cotton buying people that the farms of the South will plant as much land, use as much commercial fertilizers and make as much this year as they did last.

And if they do it will sell next Fall cotton for 3 or 4 cents a pound.

At luncheon last week President Roosevelt declared himself "at heart a Democrat of the Jackson type, and the nearer to the olden time the better."

DEATHS.

"I am gone," were the words that fell with sadness on the ears of the inmates of that home on reaching the bedside of Mrs. L. T. Williams, on the morning of Sep. 27th, 1901. She reposed in her usual health the night before, and awoke to find that God had called her, although she lingered till Saturday morning, Oct. 1st, when in the presence of friends and loved ones she closed her eyes in that last long sleep, never to waken here again.

She was a daughter of the late John and Mary Hair and was the last one of their children out of a large family. She was a member of the Rosemary Baptist Church for many years, and in it she took a great delight.

There is another home made sad and lonely; a vacant seat around that fire-side that never can be filled, but we must humbly submit to God's will.

Yet we have a hope to meet her, in that home beyond the sky; Where no farewell word is spoken, And no last good bye.

B.

Mr. Allen J. Weatherbee died on the 30th ult. in the Augusta Hospital, as the result of an operation performed as the last hope of restoring his long failing health.

He was 78 years of age and had long been a merchant and plasterer one of the foremost citizens of Williston, and much of the high progress and development of that community is due to his wise judgment and generous public spirit.

He was devoted to his family and in his life for those he loved was idolized by his children, honored by his kindred and affectionately respected by all that knew him.

In many homes and hearts there is sadness because "Uncle Allen" has passed from the ways of men. He left two sons, Messrs Robert A. and Robert A., and the children of his eldest son, Mr. Ashley M. Weatherbee, who died years ago.

His body was brought to Williston on the last day of the old year and after touching services, conducted by Rev. J. D. Moore, was laid by loving hands to the last long rest.

On Christmas night, December 25th, 1902, at ten o'clock our little darling boy, Judson Theodore, was snatched away from his devoted parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Morris.

Theodore was twenty-five months and one day old, a sweet and affectionate child to every one that knew him, and unusually bright. Oh, how our hearts ache when we think that we can never see that loving face again on this earth.

But we hope to meet again where there will be no more pain or death to separate us. How sad our old home is now, that was once so happy and bright. Oh, to think that sweet voice we once heard is to be heard no more.

Sleep little Theodore, sleep, God called him home for he knew best. His life was so short and sweet, but the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away. There is the vacant chair that no one can fill like him. He spoke his last word on Christmas eve night and that was "I am called for mamma. Little Theodore leaves father and mother, one brother, one sister and a host of friends to mourn his loss.

His remains were laid to rest at Friendship Baptist cemetery, Rev. J. D. Moore conducting the funeral services. Sister.

Col. Charles S. McCall died on Saturday at Bennettsville of heart failure following grippe contracted at the Boll Weevil Convention in Shreveport, La.

He came home from the war owning only the horse he had ridden in the 1st Cavalry. Engaging in farming, merchandizing, banking and cotton manufacturing he accumulated an estate of half a million dollars. He served as State Senator from 1879 to 1890 and was reelected in 1890.

He was 62 years of age and had never lost a day's work. He was a sweet and noble man, well worth living, for every duty in war and peace was nobly done. The State had no worthier son.

Mrs. Mary Liles, grand-mother of Mr. George B. Todd of Robbins, died at her home in Camden on the 26th ult., in the 85th year of her age.

DOMESTIC TROUBLES.

It is exceptional to find a family where there are no domestic troubles. Occasionally, but they can be lessened by having Dr. King's New Life Pills around. Much trouble they save by their great work in stomach and liver troubles. They not only relieve you, but cure. See at Creech's Pharmacy, C. N. Burkhalter's Drug Store.

The next report of the census bureau on the cotton ginned will cover the work until the 19th inst, and if it shall show a great falling off as compared with last year the price of the staple will get steady and start up grade.

A VERY CLOSE CALL.

"I stuck to my engine, although every joint ached and every nerve was racked with pain," writes C. W. Boland, a locomotive fireman, of Burlington, Iowa. "I was weak and pale, without any appetite and all run down. As I was about to give up, I got a bottle of Electric Bitters, and after taking it, I felt as well as I ever did in my life." Weak, sickly, run down people always gain new life, strength and vigor from their use. Try them. Satisfaction guaranteed by Creech's Pharmacy, C. N. Burkhalter's Drug Store. Price 60 cents.

Much of emptiness of this life is caused by people taking too much time to make money and too little to enjoy it.

The man who believes success is an accident is himself a failure.

DANGER IN DIRT.

Dirt is contagious. If anybody doubts it let him observe the streets. Littered with all sorts of rubbish they offer a positive invitation to everybody to toad or sweep his surplus matter into them. If the streets were kept in a proper state of cleanliness no decent person at least would think of throwing anything upon the roadway or in the gutters. There is also a moral effect. Clean surroundings beg for clean habits. Children going to school are unconsciously influenced by what they see and dirty streets being a standing example of untidiness in those to whom they naturally look for leading, they grow indifferent and careless. Thus the toleration of dirt on the streets becomes not only a menace to health, but an influence for evil. Contrivances of this sort may have a place in the average citizen's mind, which seems to take its inspirations from medieval times, when the public thoroughfares were the common sewers. From the Montreal Witness.

SCHOOL BOOKS

WE carry a full stock of all the BOOKS required in County Schools, and keep Tablets, Crayons, Ink and other supplies. Will get any School Books required at short notice.

BRIGGS, BUIST & CO., - BLACKVILLE, S. C.

Do You Wish to MAKE MONEY Growing Good Watermelons NEXT YEAR FROM EDEN SEED?

If so I can help you start right by supplying superior seed at a reasonable price. Last Spring the ravages of rats forced me to plant my watermelon crop three times before a stand was secured. Consequently my melons ripened too late for profitable shipment and instead of allowing them to decay I saved seed in the following painstaking manner from perfectly shaped, sized and ripened selected market melons, the first on five vines:

Both ends of each melon were cut off and thrown away, the melon split and the perfectly matured seed taken from the center and dried with special care. No seed were saved from rejected or decayed melons.

I guarantee these seed to be strictly first class, as good as have ever been grown. I will plant my next year's crop from seed in the same box from which I will sell to my customers.

As I have only one thousand pounds on hand the sooner orders are sent in the better they will be filled. Price 50 cents per pound, cash. As to my responsibility I refer to any Mercantile Agency or responsible business concern.

HENRY D. STILL, Blackville, S. C. EDEN SEED.

CABBAGE PLANTS. \$1.50 per 1,000. I am now prepared to fill any and all orders with the best varieties of cabbage plants. Orders filled for any amount and variety. Write for prices on lots of 3,000 and over.

Address all orders to W. F. Carr, Meggett, S. C.

FINAL DISCHARGE. Notice is hereby given that on Thursday, January 12th, 1903, the undersigned will file his final account as Administrator of the Estate of J. R. Easterling with the Judge of Probate for Barnwell County and apply for Letters Dismissory. John M. Easterling, Administrator.

FINAL DISCHARGE. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will on Saturday the seventh day of January, 1903, file with the Hon. J. K. Snelling, Judge of Probate for Barnwell County, his final account as administrator, with the will annexed, of Hercules Singleton, deceased, and apply for letters dismissory. W. L. Singleton, Administrator with the will annexed of Hercules Singleton, deceased.

December 31, 1902.

NOTICE FINAL DISCHARGE. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will, on Monday, January 23d, 1903, file her final account with J. K. Snelling, Esq., Judge of Probate for Barnwell County, as Guardian of the estate of Nellie Forrest Matheny, (formerly Wood,) and ask for letters dismissory. Mrs. Mollie Susan DeWitt, Guardian.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS. All persons having claims against the estate of John Washington, deceased, will present them duly attested, and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make payment to the undersigned promptly. Geo. H. Bates, Administrator.

December 19th, 1901.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS. All persons indebted to the estate of Ira Lindsey, late of Barnwell County, deceased, are requested to make prompt payment and all persons having claims against the said estate will please present the same, properly attested, either to me at Barwell or to H. F. Buist, Esq., my Attorney, at Blackville. Mrs. J. A. Lindley, Qualified Administratrix. December 12th, 1901.

TRESPASS NOTICE. All persons are forbidden to enter upon lands of the undersigned in Bonnett Springs Township, Barnwell County, for the purpose of hunting, trapping, fishing, taking away wood, straw or leaves, pasturing stock, or committing any other trespass under penalty of prosecution to the full extent of the law. J. J. Cochran, December 24th 1902.

GOOD NEWS TO BUYERS! JUST RECEIVED AT MY SALE STABLES IN WILLISTON Two Cars of Mules AND One Car of Horses.

They are not claimed to be the best ever shipped into the State, but they are inferior to none that have ever been brought across the Savannah River. Come to see them and your own good judgment will be satisfied that no market in the South offers better stock or makes fairer prices.

Wagons and Buggies. I am agent for the sale of Edmont and Hickory Wagons and Tyson & Jones, Jackson & Smith and Continental Buggies.

In material, workmanship, finish and style they are as near perfection as human skill can make them. Before buying elsewhere give me the opportunity to please and profit you. Q. A. KENNEDY.

MONEY TO LEND. In sums of \$500 and upwards, on improved farm land. Terms to suit borrowers. Rates reasonable. Apply to John H. Paine & Son, Columbia, or Robert Aldrich, Attorney at Barwell. 2mos.

Auditor's Appointments. The County Auditor or his representative will fill the following appointments for the purpose of taking tax returns. All tax payers are requested to meet him prepared to make proper return of all personal property and all transfers of real estate made since January, 1902. Careful attention to these matters will save both tax payer and Auditor future trouble.

Snelling: Tuesday, Jan. 3. Kline: Wednesday, " 4. Johnson Linn's: Thursday, " 5. Hilda: Friday, " 6. Dunbarton: Saturday, " 7. Dunbarton: Tuesday, " 10. Ashley's Home: Wednesday, " 11. Furse's store: Thursday, " 12. Barwell: Saturday, " 14. Monday, " 16. Tuesday, " 17.

Duncan Sains: Wednesday, " 18. Barton: Thursday, " 19. Allendale: Friday, " 20. Barwell: Saturday, " 21. Monday, " 23. Fabraz: Wednesday, " 25. Sveanore: Thursday, " 26. Ulmer: Friday, " 27. Barwell: Saturday, " 28. Monday, " 29. Blackville: Tuesday, " 31. Whale: Wednesday, Feb. 1. Barwell: Saturday, " 4. Elko: Monday, " 6. Williston: Wednesday, " 8. Kennedy's Store: Thursday, " 9. Barwell until February 20th, after which 60 per cent. will be added on all personal property not returned. W. H. DUNGAN, County Auditor. Dec. 8th, 1902.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS. State of South Carolina, County of Barnwell, Court of Common Pleas. Bonnett Stringfellow, Administrator on the Estate of Marion Stringfellow, deceased, Plaintiff, against

Bertha Stringfellow, Willie F. Caffif, Charlie L. Stringfellow, Willie M. Stringfellow, John B. Stringfellow and Fred Stringfellow, Defendants.

Notice is hereby given to all the creditors of Marion Stringfellow, deceased, that in pursuance of the order of his Honor Judge J. O. Kluh, I will hold a reference at my office, in the Town of Barwell, on Friday the sixth day of January, A. D. 1903, for the purpose of proving claims against the estate of Marion Stringfellow, deceased, and also to take testimony in proof of said claims.

All creditors of said decedent will govern themselves accordingly. H. L. O'Barren, Master. Master's Office, Dec. 26 1902.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF PERSONALTY. By virtue of authority vested in me by an order of the Probate Court for Barnwell County, I will offer for sale for cash, to the highest bidder, on Friday, the 6th day of January, 1903, at the Bates Homestead Place, in Barnwell County, the following personal property belonging to the estate of W. F. Bates: 1 horse; 4 mules; 10 head of hogs; a lot of corn, about 150 bushels; a lot of fodder, about 200 lbs.; a lot of peas, about 40 bushels; 1 infernal in a mower and rake; 2 wagons; farming implements; household and kitchen furniture, etc. J. H. Bush, Adminal trator of W. F. Bates.

I. FURMAN STILL & SONS. JUST RECEIVED! TWO CARLOADS OF STOCK MULES. HORSES. BUGGIES. WAGONS. INVITATION. THE PUBLIC GENERALLY IS INVITED TO COME TO OUR STABLES AND INSPECT OUR MULES AND HORSES. IF YOU WILL COME WE WILL HAVE DRIVEN OR RIDDEN ANY MULE OR HORSE THAT WE HAVE IN OUR STABLE. I. Furman Still and Sons' Stables, BLACKVILLE, S. C.

DEPOSIT YOUR MONEY THE BANK OF BARNWELL. CAPITAL \$100,000. SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS \$30,000. MONEY kept in your house may be lost by theft or fire. Deposit it with us and we carry REGULAR INSURANCE PROTECTION, and have the best banks. The habit of depositing with us will save you many a dollar that might be unwisely spent if kept in your pockets. CONTRACT THE HASTY NOW. The convenience and safety of paying all your obligations by check, once tried, will never be given up. Checks and drafts can be safely sent to us by mail without being registered. Either call in person and open an account with us or write us. C. F. CALHOUN, President. BUTLER HAGOOD, Vice President. F. M. BUCKINGHAM, Cashier. G. W. MANVILLE, Asst. Cashier.

TRESPASS NOTICE. All persons are forbidden to enter upon lands of the undersigned in Bonnett Springs Township, Barnwell County, S. C., for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping, taking wood, straw or leaves, pasturing stock, making paths or roads, playing games of cards or committing any other trespass, under penalty of prosecution to the full extent of the law. Mrs. E. O. Williams, Annie E. Davis, W. P. Wood, J. S. Wood, William Wood. December 20th, 1902.

KALOLA CRYSTALIZED MINERAL WATER CURES Neuralgia, Headaches, Indigestion, all Liver, Stomach, and Kidney Troubles, Greatest Cure the World has ever known. Take Kalola six days and eat anything you want. Made by the Kalola Company, Savannah, Ga. W. G. Brewer, Vice-President, Secretary and Manager. For sale by J. C. Creech, Druggist.

LAND SURVEYING. I take pleasure in informing my many friends and former clients that I am prepared to give them my best services in Land Surveying. With sixteen years practical experience I am confident that I can give complete satisfaction. R. C. Mixson, Allendale, S. C., Nov. 1st, 1904.

DR. JNO. P. LEE, JR., DENTIST, WILLISTON, S. C. Will work anywhere in the country on special appointment. C. F. Calhoun, P. M. Buckingham, Wm. McNab. Calhoun & Co FIRE, Life, Accident, Cyclone LIGHTNING AND Live Stock INSURANCE, -At Lowest Rates In- STRONGEST COMPANIES. CALHOUN & CO. OFFICES AT THE BANK OF BARNWELL