

AS HE SEES IT

Commissioner Watson Says the Farmers Must Hold Cotton.

HOW IT APPEARS TO HIM

Tells of His Observations on a Trip Through the South, and Gives it as His Opinion that the Farmers Are Making a Mistake to Sell Their Cotton Now.

"I don't hesitate to say that the man who is now taking his cotton to market is the most gigantic fool that the world has any record of, and, speaking in all seriousness, there ought to be some law that would punish him for deliberately robbing his wife and children from what they are entitled by the law of supply and demand."

This statement was made recently by E. J. Watson, commissioner of agriculture of South Carolina and president of the permanent cotton congress of the South, in discussing the situation in reference to the marketing of cotton. He is of the opinion that the cotton caterpillar is a blessing in disguise.

"To me, as president of the Southern Cotton congress," said Mr. Watson, "in the last week, while cotton has been falling in price to the vicinity of nine cents, have come many and varied communications bearing upon the situation. On top of it all has come the appearance of the cotton boll worm, commonly known as the cotton caterpillar, and mistakenly described as the 'army worm.' This last I regard as a blessing in disguise. Why the farmers of the State should become panic stricken over the appearance of the worm at this stage of the game, when he cannot possibly cause a loss of over \$50,000 for the entire State in his work upon late planted cotton, while two such counties as Orangeburg and Newberry can cause a greater loss by their farmers taking their cotton to market at this time, is something that it is hard to understand from the standpoint of business."

"I regard the appearance of the cotton worm as a blessing, in that it shows how quickly the farmer will respond to a present moment danger when it appears upon his own doorstep. Multiply the cotton boll worm thousands of times and set him upon the doorstep of the average farmer and perhaps you will see a realization of what it means to play into the hands of the bears, upon perfectly natural lines, and give away \$25 per bale on cotton by taking it to market at present. I don't hesitate to say that the man who is now taking his cotton to market is the most gigantic fool that the world has any record of, and, speaking in all seriousness, there ought to be some law that would punish him for deliberately robbing his wife and children from what they are entitled to by the law of supply and demand. It is indeed a pitiable spectacle that a lot of ignorant and frightened farmers are making of themselves and their country by rushing their cotton to market."

"The bears in New York, most of them Southern men, I am sorry to say, who are traitors for money, to their country, and I mean the nation at large, have simply done what intelligent men would do. They have taken advantage of the fact that the crop has opened all over the belt three weeks earlier than ever known and they had good sense enough to put their buyers in the field and show to the world larger receipts at interior points and ports than have ever been known before. Watch them reach the harvest on the spots just obtained in this way. And you can't blame them. Any man would have done the same thing."

"They know full well that the world demands at present 16,000,000 bales of cotton, and they have simply collected the premium on ignorance that the Southern producer has up to this time ever been ready and willing to pay. The truth of the matter is that the average farmer doesn't give a continental about the economic side of his crop. He doesn't even know what becomes of it when he sells it to a cotton buyer at an average of two grade less than it really is, and the pity of it all he doesn't care. He believes any lie that is sent out from any old cotton firm, and I don't hesitate to say it, from even the United States government, as witnessed by recent reports, and doesn't give the snap of his finger about the business end of the proposition."

"I picked up the New York American of Sunday and looked at Ranlett's summary of the cotton situation. The head lines told the story, saying 'selling by the South alone responsible for decline in the last few months.' Mr. Ranlett, very properly, charges the South itself with being alone responsible for the decline in price in the last few months, and the Southern producer ought to hang his head in shame at the cowardice he has displayed in rushing his cotton to market."

"Over in Montgomery, the other day, several thousand men—Southern

men—interested in cotton assembled to take action looking to an intelligent marketing of the crop. At that time it was not even partially apparent that cotton would open three weeks earlier than it has ever been known to do, and that the situation that exists today would develop in spite of any retractive movement, no matter how intelligent or forceful it might be. A wise policy was decided upon and it was determined to apply Southern brain to the financing of the distressed cotton. The latter, however, could not be done all in the twinkling of an eye, and the opening occurred earlier than anybody could expect. Every man there knew that there was a certain proportion of distressed cotton that would either have to go to market or be financed. This cotton has about all gone to the market, and the effect of it has been reflected in the phenomenal drop in price; that drop on its face seems alarming, but it is not frightening those who are handling, to the best of their ability, the situation. I don't know whether Mr. Barrett is going to be able to secure the French-English loan or not, but I do know that if every man in the South, who can at this moment possibly hold a bale of cotton, even his own house, or front yard, will do so proper price for cotton is as certain to be obtained as the sun shines, for as I have said, the world demand at this moment is for 16,000,000 bales, and nothing stands between an honest price, regulated by the law of supply and demand, but dense ignorance on the part of the producer coupled with the shrewdness of the bear gambler in Wall street and New Orleans. In its late analysis the whole thing is nothing more or less than a holding proposition."

"And speaking of holding I wish to say that I have just been through the country, across the States of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, and I believe, honestly, that the plain farmer has been awakening to the situation. All the way from Virginia to Edgefield county in this State, I passed only six farm wagons loaded with cotton going to market. We found some gigantic fools on public squares willing to rob their own flesh and blood, but this condition was rare. All along the road from Salisbury, N. C., via Charlotte, Lancaster, Kershaw and Camden, while not more than 30 per cent. of the cotton had been picked, I found farmer after farmer stacking up his cotton in his front yard. From 10 to 25 bales was an average. I found also that these men were using the piazzas of their homes, and in a score of instances one or two rooms of their residences for the storage of picked but as yet un-ginned cotton. In other words, there is every evidence that the distressed cotton, which it is necessary to take to market at a given time, has already been sold, and sold at that under stimulation of bear influence, to the material interest of those who naturally would hammer down the price of cotton. I understand that this is the situation at this moment all over the cotton belt, and as far as I have been advised the determination now to hold cotton for self-protection is general all the way from the Atlantic to Texas. I have but one word of advice and that is to tell every man who can by any means whatsoever hold a bale of cotton to do it. Even if he runs insurance risk it is his bounden duty for the protection of his own family to hold every bale that he possibly can. I don't think that I have exaggerated or enlarged upon the condition. We are face to face with a crisis in the South. It is useless to wait for federal interference. It is, therefore, as I said at Montgomery, up to the individual farmer to handle this situation to a plain, business-like, manly way. If he doesn't do it, then the bears are the bosses and he is the slave, allotted for the marketing of America's great monopoly crop can prevent the scheme of robbery that those who are conducting it are justified in practicing."

FELL ASLEEP IN SHIP'S HOLD.
And Narrowly Missed Being Carried to Liverpool.

Nothing but the courtesy of Capt. Steinbridge, master of the English cotton steamer Berwinmoor, prevented Alfred Stiles, colored, of Savannah, from becoming a temporary subject of King George, of England. Stiles fell asleep in the hold of the steamer Pathan, which sailed from Savannah for Liverpool on October 1 and did not awake until the following day when the steamer was 200 miles at sea. After hard work he forced his way out of the vessel's hold through the battened hatches and told his story to the captain. The Berwinmoor was signalled in passing; a small boat put out from the Pathan carrying Stiles to the Berwinmoor. There was some difficulty in making the transfer on account of the rough seas. But Stiles was landed at Newport News, Va., where he wired Savannah for funds to return. The Pathan continued to Liverpool.

Mule Killed by Automobile.
An automobile owned by a Mr. Smith of Newry was returning to that place from Westminster Saturday, when six miles south of Westminster the machine struck J. D. Martin, who was leading a mule. The mule was killed. The automobile was slightly injured, but did not disable Mr. Martin, who is a prosperous farmer.

CHINA REBELS

Movement on the Part of People for a R-publican Government

SPREAD OF DEMOCRACY

Uprisings Come With Revolutionists Well Organized and Financially Strong, and Their Ranks Swelled by Mutilated Chinese Troops—Cities Captured and Many Killed.

A cablegram from Hankow, China, says the revolution which has been hanging over China for months past and of which the rising in the province of Sze-Chuen was only a small part has begun in earnest. It is a concerted movement to take the Empire and declare a Republic.

The noted exiled revolutionist, Dr. Sun Yat Sen, leader of the anti-Manchu party, if the plans do not miscarry, is to be elected President. He was the delegate of the revolutionary party to the United States, in 1910, and is believed during that tour to have made arrangements for financing the movement. Sun Yu, a brother of Sun Yat Sen, who is now in Hankow, has been elected President of the Provincial Assembly, and Tang Hua Lung, the retiring President of the Assembly, and a noted scholar, has been elected Governor at Hu-Peh. The whole Assembly has seceded from the Imperial Government.

The rebels are well organized and financially strong. They have confiscated the local treasuries and the banks and are issuing their own paper money, redeeming the Government notes with this, as foreign banks are refusing Government notes. The revolutionists have captured Wu Chang, the native section of Hankow, and Han-Yang and all adjoining cities in Hu-Peh province.

Chang Sha, capital of Hunan, is reported to have risen in revolt and Nanking, capital of the province of Kiang-Su, is on the verge of rising, several public buildings having been destroyed.

Thousands of soldiers have joined the mutiny in Hu-Peh. Many Manchus have been killed and the terrified people are fleeing from the cities into the country, carrying their belongings.

The prisons have been opened and criminals liberated. There has been fighting in the streets, but the most stringent orders have been issued that the lives of foreigners and their property shall be respected.

AVENGED SISTER'S DISGRACE.

On the Ground That He Ruined a Girl Man Is Killed.

At Nashville, Tenn., E. W. Carroll was shot five times Wednesday afternoon and killed by Weaver Smith, who charges that the dead man ruined his 13-year-old sister, Caroline Smith, who disappeared at Nashville last Sunday, and was found two days later in a deserted house near the city, in company with Ed Turbeville.

Carol and Smith are both railway firemen and had been friends for years. Carol is 35 years old and married, while Smith is 22. Carol had lived at the Smith home for more than a year and in this manner became acquainted with the girl he is charged with having wronged.

After the capture of Turbeville in company with Caroline Smith, Turbeville is said to have charged that Carol was responsible for the girl's downfall. The story reached the ears of the father and brother of the child and on Wednesday afternoon Weaver Smith went to the railway yards and found Carol preparing to leave on his engine for Chattanooga. At the point of a pistol Smith forced Carol to accompany him to the Smith home where Caroline was confronted with the man and told that she must tell the truth about her relations with Carol, whereupon the girl told the entire story of her ruin, which she said was accomplished by Carol about a year ago. Weaver Smith then fired several shots into Carol's body with fatal effect.

Dispensary Profits Distributed.

The State says the city of Columbia received a check for \$29,202, this being its share in the dispensary profits for the quarter ending September 1. The county and county board of education will also be sent checks. The total profits for Richland amounted to \$58,404.94.

Family Left the House.

A report from Pleasant Grove in Chester county says a man named Waddell went to the store to get "Paris green" to kill the cotton worms because when the sun got hot they swarmed into his house, overrunning the bed and forcing his family to leave the house.

Found Dead in Corn Field.

Mr. Martin Rivers, aged about 60 years, who lived near Hampton, was found dead in his corn field, where he was harvesting a crop of corn. The cause of his death is supposed to have been heart failure.

INSECT INVASION

THE STATE BEING OVERRUN BY MANY KINDS OF PESTS.

This Is An Object Lesson That May Be Profitable If We Profit By It.

It does not require scientific knowledge but merely ordinary observation to convince the farmer and other citizens that South Carolina is now receiving an invasion of insect without parallel in the present generation.

The Pine Bark Beetle has riddled the pines of the Up-Country and is rapidly moving eastward into the great commercial pine belt. In order to check that insect energetic measures must be undertaken and kept up for a number of years.

The Pea Curculio did immense damage in certain sections early in the year by cutting off cotton blooms and reports from Whitmire, in Newberry county, and elsewhere show that the Melancholy Rose Beetle is repeating what he accomplished two years ago in other sections.

Several small invasions of grasshoppers, resulting in wiping out small fields of corn (one of forty acres near Columbia and one of thirty acres in Aiken County) are also indications of far worse to come.

The whole Up-Country is being swept by a mosquito plague that in certain towns has reached enormous proportions. Greenville has been carrying on a war against these pests through its health office. Capt. P. S. Land, of Columbia, for many years a conductor on the old Columbia and Greenville railroad, says that thirty years ago mosquitos were practically unknown from Greenville to Columbia—a statement that any old citizen will confirm.

The list of destructive insects, now for the first time in evidence, is a long one, and space is lacking merely to chronicle it. Enough has been said to call attention to a most sinister and important fact.

At the last session of the General Assembly I appeared before committee on Fish, Forestry and Game and stated to that body that "before the Boll Weevil arrived there would be such an outbreak of insects as would jar the teeth in their heads." They will remember that prediction, which has already come true, although more is to follow. If any member of that committee has any doubt in his mind, he has only to go into the Up-Country and see for himself.

The situation has been brought about by a rapidly diminishing bird supply, which the General Assembly has done nothing to check, for nothing but nominal protection is accorded birds, there being no way whereby the laws can be enforced.

In the case of the Pine Bark Beetle Dr. F. E. L. Beel, of the Biological Survey, writes me that Scolytid beetles (the genus to which the Pine Bark Beetle belongs) have been found not only in the stomachs of woodpeckers, which tear off the bark to get at them, but also in the stomachs of nighthawks, flycatchers and other birds whose food is taken on the wing. The loss of birds has meant an outbreak of beetles and the farmer pays the freight.

It is also true that nighthawks (or bullbats) along with martins, chimney swifts and swallows, feed very largely on mosquitos, taking thousands at a meal. Inasmuch as these birds must fill their stomachs from eight times to ten times daily, one can see what an enormous amount of mosquitos would be carried off by them.

In other words, so long as these birds were plentiful and unmolested mosquitos were kept within the bounds set by nature. With the birds destroyed below the point of efficiency, the pests spread. Nighthawks (bullbats) have been reported as being shot at different points all over the State, but this department is powerless to take effective action without money to hire wardens and to prosecute cases.

It is nothing less than a special act of Providence that the Cotton caterpillars (called Army worms generally) came so late in the season. Otherwise the first crop would have gone the way of the top crop.

Now it does not matter what any man's previous notions have been, he must recognize facts when he sees them, if he is an honest man. Moreover I have told the General Assembly that they need not believe my unsupported word, but that the government scientists will furnish them independent information as to the situation whenever they ask for it.

If what I have told them does not conform to the facts, there is an easy way to prove it.

But the General Assembly has not done this. No action has been taken to get information; nothing has been done to protect the farmers of the State, and if the cotton Boll Weevil finds the State unprepared, then the men charged with the responsibility will be liable to the grave charge of criminal carelessness with a public trust.

It is the duty of the General Assembly to take steps at once to safeguard the interests of the farmers of the State. There is no time to waste and no time to argue with individ-

HIT AT OLD BEN

Gov. Blease Doubts the Truthfulness of Senator Tillman's

LETTER TO BOSE CREWS

Governor Blease Says He Believes Senator Tillman Was in a Combination With Richards to Bring Out Chief Justice Jones for Governor in the Next Election.

The Spartanburg Herald says surrounded by a constantly argued throng of admirers at the Argyle hotel Friday night, Governor Cole L. Blease freely expressed his views on different subjects to a reporter for the Herald and disclosed something of his plans.

He made it plain that notwithstanding Senator B. R. Tillman's denial, he believed there was truth in the story published by W. T. Crews, editor of the Greenwood News-Scimitar, to the effect that Senator Tillman and Maj. John G. Richards, Jr., had plotted to bring out Chief Justice Ira B. Jones, of the supreme court, as a candidate to defeat him for governor.

He said he believed the program had been to elect Maj. Richards lieutenant governor. Then, if Senator Tillman was compelled for any reason to give up his seat in the Senate, Justice Jones would take his place and Maj. Richards would step into the governor's chair.

Expects to Beat Jones.

"I am going to be reelected," said Governor Blease, when asked if he would say anything concerning politics. "I will beat Jones by a bigger majority than the one by which I defeated Featherstone, and if Tillman's man Richards is a candidate I will beat them both."

Another interesting statement of the governor was that he intended to remedy conditions at the hosiery mill of the State penitentiary through legislation to be enacted by the general assembly at its approaching session. Bristling up at the suggestion that the legislature might not be amendable to his wishes, he said: "They better had. That's all I have to say."

Continuing, Governor Blease said "that little grand jury" in Richland county, which found the hosiery mill to be sanitary, had set itself against some of the best physicians in the State. He mentioned physicians who he said, declared the hosiery mill was a disease breeder, and said he was marshalling his facts for submission to the legislature.

It was foolish the governor said, for laymen to set themselves against experts. For instance, he said, the floors and walls and ceiling of the Argyle hotel seemed to be clean and sanitary. But suppose, he suggested that expert physicians should say that the walls and ceiling were infested with disease germs; would a reasonable layman attempt to contradict them? This, he said, was the case with the hosiery mill.

Speaking of legislation which he would commend to the general assembly, Governor Blease said he would try to obtain the passage of a law establishing two cents a mile as a flat rate for passenger transportation on the steam railroads of the State. This, he said, would obviate the mileage nuisance and made it possible for poor people to travel short distances as cheaply as wealthy people.

Under the law he proposes, he said, a passenger who was traveling ten miles could buy a ticket for 20 cents, or give the conductor 20 cents or give the conductor ten miles of mileage, as was most convenient. If the rail-people did not trust their conductors, he asserted, they ought to discharge them and get men whom they could trust; and if he were a conductor and his employers did not trust him he would quit his position.

The governor said he would also recommend to the legislature all the measures he recommended before which were not passed.

Found Killed in Saloon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Kraft, proprietors of a road house seven miles from Detroit, were murdered in their saloon Saturday night, and the police are searching for Charles Fuller, a former employe. A daughter of the murdered couple claims Fuller shot at her and missed and then killed her parents. The tragedy followed a quarrel between the girl and Fuller.

Charged With Attempted Assault.

Two negroes, Charles Gaines and Raymond Vraigwell, were put in jail at Murphysboro, Ill. in connection with the attempted assault on a young woman last week. While the sheriff denies that one of the negroes has been identified as the man who grabbed the girl, it is currently reported

that the law should be passed and the people informed afterwards, for it is their own fault if they do not know now. Ignorance is always costly in this instance it will be fatal. James Henry Rice Jr.

BRYAN DARES TAFT

COMMONER CHALLENGES THE PRESIDENT TO PUBLISH

The Names of the Men on Whose Recommendation He Appointed Supreme Court Judges.

In an editorial appearing in The Commoner this week Mr. Bryan challenges President Taft to make public the written and verbal recommendations on which he appointed Justice White to the position of chief justice over Justice Harlan and recommendations, written and verbal, on which he appointed the justices whom he has placed on the supreme bench.

The editorial says in part: "At Cherryville, Kan., the president repeated the challenge he issued at Detroit to Mr. Bryan to produce an example of restraint of trade that would not come within the scope of the supreme court decisions in the Standard Oil and Tobacco Trust cases."

"He spoke of the criticism as glib. It would be a reflection on the president's intelligence to assume that he expects his remarks on the trust question to be taken seriously. He knows that Mr. Bryan has only reiterated the criticisms contained in his dissenting opinion of Justice Harlan and in the report of the senate judiciary committee filed by Senator Nelson three years ago."

"Justice Harlan and Senator Nelson pointed out that the amendment written into the law by the supreme court practically nullified the criminal clause of the anti-trust law. Replying on the authorities cited by Justice Harlan and Senator Nelson, Mr. Bryan has asserted and asserts again that it will be found practically impossible to convict a trust magnate in a criminal court."

"Does the president believe a criminal conviction possible? If so, why does he hesitate to prosecute the officials of the Standard Oil and Tobacco companies?"

"Mr. Bryan challenges Mr. Taft to make public the written and verbal recommendations upon which he appointed Justice White to the position of chief justice over Justice Harlan and the recommendations, written and verbal, on which he appointed the justices whom he had placed on the supreme bench. Did he know how they stood on trust questions or was it purely accidental that all of his appointees took the trust side of the question?"

SAYS HE WILL BEAT JONES.

Repeats Statement About the Statesman Without a Job.

The Daily Piedmont says Governor Blease, who spent the greater part of Friday in Greenville announced that he had accepted the resignation of Chief Justice Jones, tendered by that official several weeks ago and followed the next day by the Chief Justice's announcement that he would be in the race for Governor next year. The public has been of the opinion that the governor would accept the resignation, but no official announcement to this effect has been made until now. The resignation takes place January 9th. The governor, on talking of the gubernatorial race and the proposed candidacy of Chief Justice Jones, said he would repeat his statement made recently in Charleston, that "Mr. Jones would after January 9th be a statesman without a job. He said he was more hopeful of his enemies than ever and that he would beat Jones and all other candidates run in opposition to him."

STANDS BY HIS PARDONS.

Gov. Blease Says He Has No Apologies to Make For Them.

The Spartanburg correspondent of The News and Courier says Gov. Blease in speaking of the pardons that he had granted, said that he had no apologies to make in that respect, for when he looked into it and found, in his judgment, the party was worthy of being pardoned he would turn them loose. He also told of an interesting case of a little girl who wanted him to free her brother from the Reformatory to help provide a living for her mother, who was an invalid. Gov. Blease said rather than to have turned that girl down he would have resigned from the Governor's chair. He stated that he was not through pardoning convicts yet; that there were many others in the Penitentiary that he intended to free.

Many Horses Are Dying.

The Beaufort Gazette says horses continue to die on the islands. Ninety-six head have died on Hilton Head and a great many on St. Helena and Ladies' Island. This is a great loss to the people of these islands and they should be given help by the community.

White Man Killed in Gin.

H. C. Pope, a white man living several miles from Sumter, was cut in a gin Thursday shortly after noon and died from the shock.