

The Abbeville Messenger.

VOL. 2.

ABBEVILLE, S. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1886.

NO. 25.

The Farmers in Convention.

COLUMBUS, Feb. 11.—[A Staff Correspondent.]—The spring session of the State Agricultural Association closed yesterday. President Livingston held the association nicely in hand, and contributed largely to the dispatch of business. The programme was thoughtfully arranged and strictly adhered to.

Professor White, of the State University, in charge of the experimental farm at Athens, gave a very interesting and instructive address, based on the results of his experiments, observations and readings. Prof. White, spoke without notes, and made a splendid impression. Whether or not his experiments will be utilized and his wise suggestions adopted remains to be seen. Too many of our farmers regard all such as "very nice on paper," but of no real value to themselves or any one else. And yet, experimentation is one of the things most needed—the one thing that is most intimately allied to profitable farming.

Experiments were made with cotton and corn. With cotton, to determine—1st. Whether the cotton plant derives the nitrogen necessary for its growth from the atmosphere or from the soil.

2d. If in whole or in part from the soil, which of the following nitrogenous materials it prefers, viz.: Nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, dried blood, cotton seed meal, raw bone.

3d. The relative economics or money value of the materials used.

Prof. White gave the facts and results in detail.

The conclusions reached were as follows:

That nitrogenous manures increased the yield, thus demonstrating the fact that the cotton plant requires that a portion of its nitrogen be supplied through the soil; that cotton seed meal is superior to raw bone, dried blood, nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia; that two and a quarter per cent. of ammonia is a safe average proportion in a mixed fertilizer; that cotton seed meal may be regarded as the best and cheapest nitrogenous fertilizer for cotton.

The experiments established the following additional facts:

That all forms of phosphate manures increased the yield.

That, in order of excellence, the forms of phosphate stood as follows: Steamed bone and Ocellilla guano, soluble phosphate, reverted phosphate and flats.

That the use of floats was attended with actual money loss.

That kainit is superior to muriate of potash as a source of potash for cotton.

That cotton seed is not a good manure for oats.

The experiments with corn demonstrated the fact that nitrogenous matter under corn does not play.

An interesting experiment was made to test the advantage of "pulling fodder" and allowing the blades to remain on the stalk until the crops made. From one plat (half-acre) the fodder was pulled in the usual manner August 24th, cured and weighed. From the plat, the fodder was not pulled at all. October 14th the corn was gathered from both plats, shucked and weighed. Results:

Plat 1, fodder pulled:
Fodder 158 pounds, shucks 100 pounds; corn (ear) 914 pounds, which shelled gave 504 pounds, cob 110 pounds.

Plat 2, fodder not pulled:
Shucks 125 pounds, ear corn 901 pounds, which shelled 729 pounds, cob 171 pounds.

The plat from which the fodder was not pulled yielded 910 pounds ear corn more than the plat from which the fodder was pulled. The loss of 158 pounds of fodder was attended by a gain of 286 pounds ear corn or 225 pounds shelled corn. Briefly, the farmer who pulled his fodder loses \$2.50 per acre in addition to the cost of gathering the fodder. Now here are grad-grind, money facts. How many farmers will test the experiment next summer? How many?

Turning from experiments in cotton and corn, Prof. White touched upon the labor question and threw out suggestions which will surely put to thinking the farmers who heard him. His leading thought was that a successful agri-

cultural community was an impossibility in the absence of a peasantry such, for example, as is found in France, England and even in down-trodden Ireland. Prof. White did not follow this thought in any of its ramifications. It presents a prolific theme and ought to arouse the best thought of the State. He referred, incidentally, to the necessity of contraction on the part of the farmers of the State—contraction as to acreage. A natural consequence would be a system of intense farming—fewer acres, better seed, higher culture, more satisfactory results.

Col. Fannin, of Troup, introduced a resolution commendatory of the Legislature's action in passing the Technological School bill.

Judge Harrell, of Webster, opposed the adoption of the resolution in an earnest speech.

The resolution was adopted. Judge Harrell opposed the bill in the Legislature and declares he will continue his opposition to the idea so long as a chance remains to defeat it.

The Agricultural Association desires that the farming interests be considered when the school is established and the curriculum is being formulated.

Mr. Ragland's essay on tobacco culture was read by Mr. Waddell, and held the close attention of the association. Judge Henderson has distributed a large quantity of tobacco seed, together with a manual giving mode of culture, etc. A number of farmers will take hold of this new departure and test its practicability.

The gubernatorial canvass may be said to have fairly opened. Judge Simmons' presence in Columbus centred attention upon his candidature and elicited considerable comment on the Macon Telegraph's editorial criticism and the judicial ermine and the pool of politics. The position of the Telegraph, as generally understood, is that a Judge, who has determined to make an active, personal canvass for the gubernatorial nomination, ought to resign.

I heard Governor McDaniel's name mentioned in connection with the canvass. His Excellency has a great many warm friends who confidently look forward to his re-election to the office he now honors. The suggestion, whenever thrown out, instantly called forth a statement that he is clearly ineligible. It was urged that, if re-elected next fall, Governor McDaniel will have served five years or more whereas the Constitution prescribes a term not exceeding four years.

Hon. A. O. Bacon, with one of his daughters is on a visit to friends in Ohio. His absence worked him no harm. His candidacy was frequently referred to and heartily endorsed. Inquiry was made as to the chances of the different gentlemen whose names are being mentioned in connection with the Governorship. From all sections of the State come reports highly encouraging to Major Bacon's friends. Major B. is squarely in the field. In a straightforward way, he has made and will continue to make his candidacy known to Democratic electors throughout the State. Maj. B. bore himself so nobly on the occasion of his defeat for the nomination, three years ago, he excited the most intense admiration for himself among those who observed him. He did not sulk in his tent, but, having made an honest fight for a honorable distinction, accepted the situation and bowed gracefully to what seemed to be the will of the Democracy. I would not utter a word or write a line in disparagement of the claims of any of the distinguished gentlemen mentioned as candidates for the high office of Governor. In the foregoing, I have outlined the drift of public opinion, gathered from all portions of our State. Major Bacon is a gentleman of high character and marked ability. He has devoted much time to the study of State-craft. He possesses splendid executive ability. He is broad-minded and progressive. He is, par excellence, a representative of the young Democracy of the State. In the Executive chair, he would do honor to all classes just as he would deal evenly and justly to all. The more one analyzes the character of Maj. Bacon, the more one studies his career as a citizen, as a lawyer, as a legislator, as a gentleman, the more steadily does he grow upon that person.

Sickness prevented Dr. Felton from

complying with his engagement to address the association on farmers and farming. The Doctor's absence was the cause of deep regret. All were anxious to hear him on so interesting and inviting a subject.

M. V. C.

Beaten by the President.

[Special to News Courier.]

WASHINGTON, February 17.—Scarcely more than half the Republican Senators put in an appearance at the caucus held this morning, notwithstanding the fact that personal notice was served upon each one last evening. Some of the Republicans ignored the caucus in order to manifest their impatience at any further attempts to harass the President. Senator Edmunds apparently regarded the slim appearance with displeasure, as he failed to even mention the elaborate report he has been preparing in response to the attorney general's letter refusing information with regard to the suspension of a United States attorney in Alabama. He contented himself with proposing some resolutions, and even these failed to receive entire sanction. Senators Don Cameron, Plum, Van Wyck, Jones of Nevada, and others, do not hesitate to express disapproval of the policy of general resistance to the President by a wholesale refusal to confirm nominations. They say that public opinion would attribute such action solely to a partisan desire to harass and annoy the Administration, and that the Republicans could not be benefited by it. More than one Republican Senator has received letters from constituents of his own party advising against factious or partisan opposition to confirmations. The indications are that Senator Edmunds will not be able to hold his party together upon the line he has marked out, and that before long the Senate will fall into its old custom of acting upon nominations in accordance with the merits or demerits of each case.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA NOMINATIONS.

Senators Hampton and Butler are laboring with the Republican members of the Senate finance committee to convince them that there is no substantial objection to the nomination of Col. Bradley as collector of internal revenue. Senators Morrill and Allison, two of the prominent members of the committee, are disposed to deal fairly with the South Carolina Senators and have allowed the latter to see all the papers filed with the committee in the case, and have accorded them the privilege of making a statement in behalf of Col. Bradley before the committee. The indications are that the nomination will eventually be favorably acted on by the committee.

The nomination of Collector Jervey is before the same committee, but up to date no opposition from outside sources has been raised against it. Collector Jervey's case is in the same predicament as other appointments made to fill vacancies occasioned by suspension, and it will hardly be acted upon until the Republican Senators recede from their present position.

The New York Sun to-day publishes what purports to be an account of yesterday's meeting of the finance committee, and in referring to the contested cases now pending before that committee says: "The nomination of Collector Bradley, of South Carolina, concerning which a good deal has been published, was also under consideration, and the charges against him were spread before the committee. These charges are that he has always opposed in his newspaper, on the stump and in private the collection of internal revenue taxes, and defended and protected those who have been arrested for illicit distilling. Copious extracts from the columns of the Pickens Sentinel, of which he is editor, have been laid before the committee to sustain the charges. Senators Beck, Harris and Vance explained that these editorials were a true expression of the sentiment of the people in the moonshine districts, and they themselves agreed with editor Bradley that the people who run tea-kettle distilleries were persecuted by the internal revenue officers. The further consideration of the nomination was postponed until Senators Hampton and Butler could be heard in behalf of their protegee."

R. M. L.

Johnson's Kalsomine, the prettiest, cheapest and most durable preparation of the kind in the market. For a testimonial examine Speed & Neuffer's store.

The Negro a Failure.

Prof. H. C. White, occupying the chair of Chemistry and Agricultural Science at the University, of Georgia, has been among Augusta's most appreciated guests the past week.

He had just returned from the meeting of State farmers in Columbus, where his striking address upon the subject of improving labor in the South, has developed much comment in a new and improved direction.

The Chronicle sought out Prof. White while in Augusta, not only on account of his genial and engaging manners, but for his bold and practical ideas. Prof. White is a man who adorns any sphere in life and who leaves the impress of a scholar and practical worker upon everything he touches.

The Chronicle asked the Professor about his address in Columbus, in which he showed up the negro as a failure as a skilled laborer, and declared the unfitness of the class for a peasantry.

As the Chronicle has already noticed, Prof. White, on the labor question said that the great necessity of Georgia was a peasantry. What he means by a peasantry is intelligent and scientific laborers, such as France, England and even down-trodden Ireland have. He had nothing to say against the negro, but it was a well known fact that he is incapable of receiving scientific instruction. In discussing this subject he knew he was laying himself open to criticism, but the labor question is the most important to the Georgia farmer.

NO PEASANTRY HERE.

"Well," said Professor White, I took this ground:

"Here we have a State of fine climate with a soil naturally good and susceptible of greater improvement, but the country is absolutely without a peasantry. The people who occupy the rank of peasants are an ignorant, shiftless class, seemingly not desirous of self-advancement.

"There is among them a low state of morality and little disposition to acquire property nor are they susceptible of that training which enables them to work our land to the best advantage."

"Our country cannot be improved without good labor, educated labor and skilled labor. In thinking over this whole matter I have made bold to inquire whether or not the lack of a saving, middle class is not the weak point in our Southern system, and whether or not the labor difficulty is not at the bottom of all our trouble?"

"What is your solution, Professor—your formula?"

THE REMEDY.

"This of course leads us to hunt for the remedy. I contended:

1st. We must live independently of this class of labor by cultivating our selves small acres. This leads to intensive farming.

2d. This of course means scientific farming. We must educate the rising generation of whites so that they may understand scientific agriculture. Our State scientific and agricultural schools must be built up and fostered. The same is true of the mechanic arts, and this is where our technological schools must come in, to raise up young mechanics and train Southern labor."

IMMIGRATION.

"This system of thoroughly cultivating small farms will leave a large amount of unoccupied and uncultivated land—larger than now remains. Now, to make a country prosperous and to increase our present population, and in order that this prosperity may come before the negro succeeds in ruling or ruining this country, we must work for immigration. That is our only hope."

"What is your specific plan?"

"I think the State, the railroads and associations of individuals, should unite in advancing the interests of the State in the North and West and in Europe, where thousands of immigrants and thousands of settlers are seeking homes and would come South if the matter was properly presented to them."

"The idea is not to pay people to come South, but we can advertise and encourage them to come South. An appropriation of \$5,000 a year would be sufficient to publish pamphlets and distribute them, even employing an

agent to look after Georgia's interests abroad."

"What a great thing, for instance, would it be for the Central Railroad to employ agents to induce immigrants to settle along the lines of its road. It would pay them an hundred fold by building up their country and developing their property in every way."

Pride and the Lack of It.

Most persons in this world are anxious for applause. They like to be well thought of, and never object to hear themselves spoken of in a commendable manner. No real objection can be formed to this, provided sinful vanity is not at the root of it. Pride, it must be remembered, is a busy sin that spoils all we undertake. More than this, it is bound to be discovered, and the real object we have in view is often defeated by it. When Diogenes stepped upon the flowing robe of Plato, he comically remarked: "Thus do I trample on the pride of Plato." The sage turned and replied: "Yes, Diogenes: but with greater pride of your own." It was evident that Diogenes took pride in making a display of his impudence before the rabble. There are many persons who act to-day precisely like Diogenes did. Some who are naturally dirty and slovenly hate to see a gentleman wear a clean shirt. They speak of him as a "Miss Nancy," "dude," etc. We once heard a clownish fellow remark about some genteel folks, who although poor, always appeared in company neatly dressed: "Those people put all they have upon their backs, and starve their stomachs." A bystander quietly replied: "That is more commendable than to make a hog of yourself by putting all you have in your stomach and go like a vagabond." The cap seemed to fit the first party so perfectly that he slunk away with a stupid grin. Very few persons are so poor that they cannot make a decent appearance when they appear on the streets and even when at home. To appear like a sloven at home and on streets like a princess or Lord Chesterfield is shoddy and vulgar. Neatness and cleanliness of person at home should always be observed. It will not do, either, to attend to only certain portions of the body and neglect the others. Women, particularly, should always be careful to keep their hands in order. A woman with pretty face and rough hands, with traces of dirt beneath the nails, is like the peacock—his plumage is beautiful, but you must never look at his feet. It is said that if the bird while strutting looks at his feet his tail droops immediately. The peacock cannot help himself, but any female, unless she is compelled to work in dye colors, can keep her hands in order if she is willing to take the trouble. We should so respect ourselves that we would be unwilling to appear at home in a way that we could not appear before strangers. Of course no one expects to see persons who have domestic duties to attend to dressed in silks and fine linen, but they do expect to see them properly costumed for their work.

Many young men are so afraid of being called "mean" that they will spend the last dollar they have with their comrades for purposes very often more to be condemned than commended. It is so nice to have the "boys" call them "generous fellows." Hold on young man; generosity should always commence at home. If you spend money among strangers that is needed by relatives, you are really ungrateful, selfish and devoid of moral courage. Remember that relations stick to you when your money is gone. Friends, so-called, who adversity overtakes you, will disappear like the leaves in autumn. To have too much pride is to spoil whatever we undertake; to be without entirely man's us fit only to associate with animals that wallow in the mire.—Columbia Record.

Miraculous Escape.

W. W. Reed, druggist, of Winchester, Ind., writes: "One of my customers, Mrs. Louisa Pike, Barton, Randolph Co., Ind., was a long sufferer with Consumption, and was given up to die by her physicians. She heard of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, and began buying it of me. In six months' time she walked to this city, a distance of six miles, and is now so much improved she has quit using it. She feels she owes her life to it." Free Trial Bottles at Cothran & Perrin Drug Store.

Subscribe for the MESSENGER.

The New Deal Again.

"Get three glass eyes; And like a scurvy politician, Seem to see the things thou dost not."

Many of our exchanges, without advancing any definite reason, persist in clamoring for a new deal in the next election of State officers. Much has been said about the new deal, and it is probable that as the election draws near, it will be taken up by dissatisfied politicians of a low order, who desire to ride into what they consider "fat offices," upon this hobby.

Unquestionably, the most important consideration in electing officers is their individual qualifications. Fitness for the discharge of the duties should first be considered, and we have sympathy with those who seem to imagine that because a man's grandfather performed the State service, therefore all his descendants should receive the emoluments of a public office, as annuities. No one section of the State is entitled to greater favor than another. Good men can be found all over the State, and as they are but representatives of the people, they should be chosen from the people, they should be chosen from the people of the State as such.

Perhaps the new deal idea arises from the fact that great complaint is made against high taxes. Unless it can be shown that the State officers have abused the trust reposed in them, we see no reason for turning a man out of office who has performed his duty, satisfied his constituents, and proven himself worthy. It is folly to turn out a good man simply to experiment with another. The State officers have nothing to do with reducing taxation. This evil if it be one, must be remedied by the legislators and County Commissioners. Elect competent and trustworthy County officers and you may be sure no unnecessary expense will be incurred.—Laurensville Advertiser.

"The Swamp Angel."

When General Gilmore laid out his plan of operations against Charleston, S. C., and its defences in the summer of 1863, he decided to plant a battery in the marsh, at some point whence it might be possible to reach the wharves and shipping of the city with shells. The marsh here was a bed of soft black mud, sixteen to eighteen feet deep, overgrown with reeds and grass traversed with tortooses, sluggish water courses, and overflowed at high tide. Here, at a point midway between Morris Island and James Island, fully five miles from the lower end of Charleston, on a strong platform of logs, placed directly on the surface of the marsh, but strengthened beneath the gun platform by piles driven through the mud into the solid sands below and filled between with sand, was planted the battery. It mounted a single gun, an eight inch rifled Parrot gun. The gunner was protected by a sand-bag parapet. August 24, 1863, General Gilmore demanded the surrender of Charleston. The demand being rejected, fire was opened from this gun upon the city. Several shells did reach the lower end of the city, and caused much damage by exploding among the warehouses there, but no persons were harmed. The Swamp Angel did not, however, long continue to terrify the Charlestonians. Being fired at a considerable elevation, with a charge of sixteen pounds of powder, and impelling a projectile weighing 185 pounds, it burst at its thirty-sixth discharge. And Fort Wagner, fully a mile nearer the city, was put to no further use.—Inter Ocean.

M. Lincoln was found one morning by a visitor counting several small piles of greenbacks on his table. "This, sir," said he, noticing the gentleman's surprise, "is something out of my usual line. But a President of the United States has a multiplicity of duties not specified in the Constitution or the acts of Congress. This is one of them. This money belongs to a poor negro who is a porter in the Treasury Department, and is at present very sick with the smallpox. (He did not catch it from me, however, at least I think not.) He is now in the hospital, and could not draw his pay because he could not sign his name. I have been at considerable trouble to overcome the difficulty and get his money for him, and have at length succeeded in getting red tape, as the newspapers say. I am now dividing his money, and putting by a portion in an envelope, labeled with his name, along with my own funds, according to his wish."—Ben: Perley Poore in Boston Budget.