

FOUR MEN KILLED BY EXPLOSION.

Accident Occurred in Gin Department of Mammoth Cotton Mills No. 2, at Dukes N. C.

Raleigh, N. C. Sept. 23.—At 7.15 o'clock this morning the boiler in the gin department of the Mammoth Cotton mill, Erwin No. 2 at Dukes, on the Cape Fear and Northern railroad, about 25 miles from Raleigh, exploded with terrific violence, partially wrecking the engine room, instantly killing three white men, one of whom was the superintendent of the mills and one negro. Another negro was scalded so badly that he will die. Several persons were thrown down by the shock of the explosion, but their injuries are not serious.

From the best information obtainable it seems that the old fireman of the mill having just been discharged, the new man not thoroughly understanding the engine, had gotten up too much steam. The engine refused to work and the fireman went after the superintendent. As they entered the engine room together there was a rending roar and the men were blown to pieces.

Though horribly mangled, the body of Superintendent Fowler was still recognizable, and this afternoon it was borne to his home in Burlington, accompanied by his wife and two children. The remains of the other men will be buried at Dukes.

NEXT HOUSE WILL BE DEMOCRATIC.

Republicans Think They'll Lose in Contest For Congress.

Washington, Sept. 23.—The notes of warning which have come from the headquarters of the Republican Congressional campaign committee declaring that the control of the House is threatened by the Democrats, coupled with the remarkable campaign tour upon which the committee has sent Speaker Cannon, have served to attract attention to a number of districts in which members of the utmost prominence in the party are being called upon to fight the battles of their lives against determined Democratic opposition.

When the Speaker's tour was planned it was announced that his services would be confined strictly to the close districts, districts in which danger threatened the Republican incumbents in which the signs pointed to possible success against a Democratic member. In view of this announcement there has been a great deal of comment over the inclusion in the itinerary of such districts as those represented by Mr. James A. Hemenway, the distinguished chairman of the House committee on appropriations, now serving his fifth term in the lower branch of the national legislature; Representative Jesse Overstreet, who successfully piloted the House committee on postoffices and post roads through one of the most tempestuous voyages which ever beset his career; Representatives Joseph W. Babcock, the chairman of the Republican Congressional campaign committee, and head of the House committee, on the District of Columbia; and, lastly, Gen. C. H. Grosvenor.

As a result of the committee's determination to have Mr. Cannon dip into these districts on a tour which is very limited, with a schedule narrowed down to the lowest possible notch, there has been considerable anxious inquiry into the conditions existing in the several districts enumerated above. The impression gleaned seems to be that there is good reason to expect close results in each of the districts mentioned, with the possible exception of Gen. Grosvenor's.

Chairman Babcock of the Republican Congressional campaign committee, a few days ago, in New York, made the statement that the indications were of the loss of the House by his party. "As matters now stand," he is quoted as saying, "we are likely to lose the House of Representatives. If the Democrats carry fifteen districts which are now represented by Republicans," said Mr. Babcock, "they will wipe out our majority of the House entirely. You can readily see that in the natural course of events, without regard to the campaign work to be done by either party, the chances favor the Democrats. With an election held right now we would probably elect Roosevelt and lose the House."

Bradstreet's Trade Review.

New York, Sept. 23.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: Cool weather, while retarding or injuring some late crops, has been stimulating the fall trade, both wholesale and retail, which shows an apparent increase in volume over a year ago. The improvement is most marked in dry goods, clothing, groceries, shoes and hardware. Distributive trade is better in the northeast portions of the east, and very generally throughout the south. The central west also shows a continuance of the improvement noted last week and a widespread moderate betterment in collections is a feature deserving special mention.

A disposition is shown on the part of farmers to hold their products for better prices, this being true in many sections, notably the south and the northwest. The labor situation is rather quiet on the whole, although some notably large strikes continued unsettled. The cotton goods industry still pursues a halting course, price uncertainties breeding conservatism.

Business failures for the week ending September 22 number 203 against 183 in the like week in 1903.

Nova Scotia Millionaire Dead.

Halifax, N. S. Sept. 26.—Hon. John F. Stairn, banker, the leading financier of this city, president of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, died suddenly at Toronto yesterday, aged 56. His son Gilbert is at Harvard and is the Nova Scotia scholar under the Cecil Rhodes scholarship plan.

Frankfort, Sept. 24.—At a conference of Hamburg American and North German Lloyd steamship officials today it was decided to reduce the steerage rate from Hungary to New York to two pounds.

THE WORST HORRORS OF WAR AT PORT ARTHUR.

Field Marshall Oyama Orders The Capture of Stronghold at Any Cost—Fearful Carnage Will Attend Final Assault.

Cholera Has Broken Out Among Garrison and the Horrors of Pestilence is Added to Those of Famine and Shot and Shell.

Tien Tsin, Sept. 24.—It is reported here that Field Marshall Oyama has sent a message to the Japanese commanders of the forces about Port Arthur urging them to make a desperate effort to take Port Arthur within the next three days so as to relieve fifty thousand Japanese troops which are needed in the campaign against Gen. Karopatkine's army.

Japanese Again Demand Surrender.

Rome, Sept. 24.—According to a telegram from the newspaper Italia Militaire from Chefoo the Japanese commanders investing Port Arthur have sent another demand for the surrender of the city to General Stoessel. The exterior forts, the telegram says, are now all in the hands of the Japanese, while three of the interior forts have been wrecked by Japanese shell fire. Gen. Stoessel is expected to refuse the demand for his surrender, in which event a general assault with more determination than ever been employed heretofore will be begun tonight.

Pestilence Warring Against Russians.

Kinchow, Manchuria, Sept. 24.—A Russian naval officer here has received official advices that cholera has broken out in Port Arthur and that it is feared that the sickness will become epidemic. The situation in Port Arthur is desperate, with famine and pestilence added to the fury of the Japanese assault.

Jap Blockade Runners Evade Russians.

London, Sept. 24.—Private telegrams from Nagasaki report the safe arrival there of two vessels loaded with machinery for the Tokio arsenal. The machinery was shipped from England. The Russian volunteer cruisers Smolensk and St. Petersburg have been in South African waters for days past for the purpose of intercepting these vessels, they having information as to the character of the cargo and their destination.

Don't Know He's Whipped Yet.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 24.—General Karopatkine reports under today's date that he has received no news of a serious engagement of any of his troops.

Fearful Carnage at Port Arthur.

Paris, Sept. 24.—The Matin's St. Petersburg correspondent telegraphs as follows: "Telegrams of which the general staff have as yet no knowledge, reached the emperor at 4 o'clock this morning. I can affirm that they concern Port Arthur, regarding which place the greatest anxiety prevails at court. The Japanese are now engaged in a general assault, which is more furious than its predecessors, attacking the town on three sides simultaneously and employing their whole forces, being determined to finish the business. The Russian mines blew up whole battalions. Gen. Fock especially distinguished himself, directing the fire from the wall, which the Japanese reached after indescribable massacre. "The whole of Admiral Togo's and Vice Admiral Kamimura's squadrons are aiding the struggle, which, it is feared, will be final. The besieged forces are fighting as in a furnace. A perfect storm of shell is falling on the town, port and fortress from the whole hill and roadstead. Gen. Stoessel is going from fort to fort, encouraging the defenders in their desperate efforts. "In St. Petersburg the facts concerning the tragic event, which perhaps will terminate by a glorious fall of Port Arthur, are wholly unknown. At court hope has not yet been entirely abandoned."

Russians May Fight and Run Again.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 24, 2.45 a. m.—The absence of detailed reports from the seat of war despite the important character of events that are believed to be developing around Mukden, leads to the supposition that Karopatkine may after all not seriously contest the Japanese advance and that the long expected battle at Mukden may turn out to be merely a rear guard action upon a large scale.

Gen. Sakharoff reports that the Japanese army is moving from Bentsiapuzze towards Fu Pass, a village six miles northeast of Mukden and near the right bank of the Hun river. The river at this point is shallow, and probably for this reason the locality has been selected by the Japanese for crossing. If the Japanese succeed in gaining a foothold at Fu Pass, Gen. Karopatkine's position at Mukden will be insecure, as the Japanese will from thence be able to threaten the Russian line of communications. Fu Pass is only 20 miles north of Bentsiapuzze, but at the present rate of progress the Japanese will probably occupy four or five days in traversing it.

The Russian force south of Mukden is believed to consist of only one army corps, which is acting as a rear guard and is not intended to offer a serious resistance to the Japanese advance.

Nothing is known at the admiralty of the reported sailing of the cruiser Gromoboi out of Vladivostok to capture a Japanese transport supposed to be a sailing ship.

Gen. Karopatkine to make any serious attempt to hold Mukden. The Russian army is concentrating at Lileng.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 26.—Gen. Karopatkine reports to the Czar as follows: "The Japanese are increasing their force at Beniapuzzi to the eastward of Mukden. Skirmishes have occurred in the valley of the Hun river and at Inpu between Beniapuzzi and the railway. Large bodies of the enemy are advancing at Tsianchani in the valley of the Taitse."

General Sakharoff wires that during the last, two or three days the Japanese vanguard attempted to occupy Kaoutoulin pass to the southeast of Mukden, but the Russians were successful in repulsing the attack on the south front. All is quiet with the exception of skirmishes between outposts.

Pounding Port Arthur to Pieces.

Rome, Sept. 26.—A message from Chefoo states that the Japanese are again bombarding Port Arthur today. The losses of the attacking parties have been insignificant owing to the fact that the Japanese fortify all positions as soon as captured and are not employing infantry until the forts have been almost dismantled by artillery fire and can be taken by assault.

Japs Flanking Russian Again.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 26.—Official dispatches received today indicate that the Japanese are preparing to carry out an extensive turning movement East of Mukden. Large force of Japanese from Liao Yang are advancing across the Taitse River.

Heavy Losses at Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 26.—Unconfirmed reports received today place the Russian losses at Port Arthur on Sept. 15th at 1,100 killed and 2,000 wounded. From Sept. 15th to 22d, the loss is estimated at 5,500 killed and wounded. The number of available defenders now at Port Arthur estimated at 30,000.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 27.—News of the battle at Mukden is hourly expected. The Japanese are crossing the Taitse River at the rate of a thousand daily. Apparently a large force is now marching direct on Tieling, north of Mukden on the Liao River by the road from Tsianchan passing a hundred miles east of Mukden. When this fresh turning movement is sufficiently advanced a general movement against the Russian forces is anticipated.

The Advance on Mukden.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 27.—General Sakharoff wires that the Japanese force on Sept. 25th advanced along the ground between Mandarin roads and the heights of Tomtsi, Southeast of Mukden. The movement which was apparently a reconnaissance was retarded by the Russian cavalry.

Rochester, N. Y. Sept. 25.—Six people who were injured in a wreck on the New York, Central railroad a short distance east of Lyons early this morning were brought to Rochester hospitals. Three sleepers on the Western Express, a fast train bound from New York to Chicago, left the track because of a split rail, and threw the passengers to the floors of the coaches. Just as the train came to standstill a fast freight east bound, ran into the derailed cars. Mrs. Newman Erbs, wife of the vice president of the Pere Marquette railroad, who was brought here with both limbs cut off, died at the hospital. Mr. Erbs was bruised and injured.

THE GREATER SOUTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR.

The Event of the Year—Hints to Prospective Exhibitors—A Great Gathering of Prosperous Carolinians.

The first Greater South Carolina State Fair will be held on the new grounds recently purchased by the State Agricultural and Mechanical Society, and which have been fitted up with all modern improvements for the comfort and convenience of both exhibitors and visitors. This will be the thirty-sixth Fair since the reorganization of the Society after the civil war, and will be held the last week in October, from the morning of the 25th to the evening of the 28th.

Every county in the State should be represented in the exhibits, for there is no doubt but what great good results to all the exhibitors at every Fair, the premiums being only a small part of the benefits. A great many farmers and stock breeders count only what prizes are won, but this should not be the case, because the greatest benefits are obtained in advertising what you have for sale and in meeting with the progressive men from other sections of the State and obtaining their ideas and seeing the results of their methods. The management of the Fair is making every effort to secure successful exhibitors. Arrangements have been made by which freight charges are paid on all exhibits from this State free of charge, and provided with stock and free bedrooms are furnished to all exhibitors who are willing to stay on the grounds all the time. Numerous restaurants on the grounds furnish meals at all hours of the day or night at six delivered right at the stalls at the regular market prices, and besides there are officers who look after all exhibitors and see that every one is satisfactorily located. All exhibits may be shipped directly to the grounds, for there is ample side track provision for all the cars. Solid cars should be billed "Secretary State Fair, Columbia, S. C., care Fair Ground Tracks," and they will be rushed right through to destination. Some exhibitors may think they cannot make their entries properly, but Secretary Love will take pleasure in giving all necessary aid, provided application is made to him prior to 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, as the Fair opens at that hour and no entries can be made later. All exhibitors of live stock should arrive at the grounds not later than Friday or Saturday before the Fair, so as to get the stock quiet after shipping and get them to eating well before being put into the show ring.

The premium list is very liberal this year, and it is to be hoped that the management will meet with success in inducing a very large number of new exhibitors to attend the Fair, so that the Fair will become representative of every section of the State and of all the resources of Carolina. Information and premium lists will be cheerfully supplied upon application in person or by letter to Secretary Love at Columbia. Let all who are thinking of exhibiting, or who are in the products of stock, make up their minds right now to exhibit, write for a premium list and then make their entries at once. Join the procession that is making this State one of the best in the country.

NEGRO FOUND DEAD WITH HIS HANDS TIED.

Quiet Lynching in Greenwood County, Had Attempted Assault in Laurens County.

Special to The State. Greenwood, Sept. 24.—James Calvert Stuart, a negro about 22 years old, was lynched by Laurens county citizens shortly after midnight last night after being brought just across the river into Greenwood county. The crime for which Stuart was lynched was the usual one, in attempting a criminal assault upon the 14-year-old daughter of Mr. Doc Hughes, a well known white farmer who lives in the "Fork" between Saluda and Reedy rivers.

The first news of the lynching was brought here this morning by a gentleman who was making the trip from Greenville to Greenwood by private conveyance through the country. He reported that just after crossing Smith's bridge over Saluda river he came upon the dead body of a negro lying on the side of the road. The negro's hands were tied behind his back and he was lying with his face upturned and with his knees bent under him, a position indicating to the gentleman that he had been shot while in a kneeling posture. When the body was examined at the coroner's inquest it was found that only one bullet wound had been inflicted upon the negro. This was a pistol ball which entered the body under the left arm.

The body was turned over to the negro's father.

From reliable reports it appears that the dead negro James Stuart, had been living with Mr. Hughes about two years, his release from the Laurens county chain gang having been secured by Mr. Hughes; the negro had ever since been making his home on his place.

Friday afternoon, the negro, in company with another negro, was picking cotton near the house, Mr. Hughes left home to go to the ginnyery of Mr. Robert Anderson, not very far away. While he was away Mrs. Hughes also left home to visit a sick neighbor. This left their two daughters alone. They, too, were picking cotton very close to the house. The negro who attempted the assault knew that they were alone and going up to the yard he entered the cotton house and there secreted himself. When the younger girl entered the house to empty her sack of cotton the brute grabbed her and threw her down. She struggled up and he again threw her down.

While struggling the girl had screamed at the top of her voice and this brought her sister to the rescue. Her appearance made the negro desist and he left the younger girl alone without accomplishing his purpose. He left the house going towards the field where he was at work. Before going he told both girls if they told what he had done he would kill them. As soon as their parents arrived the girls told the story. Two young kinsmen who were there went to the field where the negro was at work. He was picking cotton right along as if nothing had been done and his suspicious manner of the two young men. They did not appear with guns, as they knew that he would run. They rode on the wagon of cotton with him until the wagon came into the yard and as the negro jumped out on the ground he was grabbed. He admitted his guilt and said he did not know why he did it. He said he knew the penalty was death.

It was reported here today that there were about 50 men of the community present and some were for carrying him to Laurens to be put in jail but a majority were for lynching him. This was decided on after midnight and he was carried to Smith's bridge over the Saluda river and after going about a mile into Greenwood county the fatal shot was fired.

Greenwood's coroner went up after being notified and held the inquest, as the body was on Greenwood county soil.

The sheriff of Laurens county was there. He had been notified that a lynching was imminent and had come as soon as possible, he said. Finding that the negro had been carried just across the river, he thought he would cross over and see him.

Augusta, Ga., Sept. 26.—On account of the scarcity of hands and to get cotton on the market early a number of large planters in this section are making arrangements to run day and night forces in the fields. They will start tonight picking staple by moonlight. Pickers are exceedingly scarce and to work only in day time keeps the staple in the field too long.

New York, Sept. 26.—James Sawyer, Alias James Brown was held without bail this morning by Magistrate Mayor to await extradition papers from South Carolina. It is charged that he attempted to set fire to an oil mill valued at \$200,000 at Florence, S. C. three weeks ago. He denies that he is wanted.

SLAUGHTER ON THE RAILROAD.

Sixty or More Persons Killed and Over One Hundred Injured—A Fearful Accident on the Southern Railway.

Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 24.—Running on a roadbed in a supposedly high condition of maintenance and having about them every safeguard known to modern railroading, two trains on the Southern railway, carrying heavy lists of passengers, came together in a frightful head-on collision near Hodges, Tenn., today, sending 54 people to death and injuring 125, several of whom will probably die. This appalling loss of life and maiming of the living resulted apparently from the disregarding of orders given to the two trains to meet at a station which has for a long time been their regular meeting point. The claim of failure to see either the station or signals could not be set up by the engineer of the westbound train were he alive to enter a plea of defense, as the accident happened in broad daylight and, according to the best information obtainable, he had the orders in a little frame in front of him as his monster of iron and steel rushed by New Market. Soon after he came upon an eastbound passenger train making for New Market in compliance with instructions to meet the westbound train, which carried the sleepers from the east for Knoxville, Chattanooga and other southern cities.

The possibility exists that the ill-fated engineer may have been asleep or that death had suddenly taken the sight from his eyes before New Market was reached. But nothing is known save that the orders were not obeyed. The trains were on time and not making over 35 miles an hour, yet the impact as they rounded a curve and came suddenly upon each other was frightful. Both engines and the major portions of both trains were demolished. Why the orders were disregarded or misinterpreted probably will never be known, as the engineers of the two trains were crushed, their bodies remaining for hours under the wreckage of the monster locomotives which but a short time before had leaped forward at the touch of their strong hands upon the throttle.

Entire Family Killed.

Gaffney, Sept. 25.—A telegram was received here yesterday announcing the death of Mr. Lee Hill at Jellico, Tenn., who was killed in an explosion in a powder mill.

The corpse was expected here on train No. 40 last night, but instead a telegram was received stating that the corpse, accompanied by Mr. Scott Hill, his father, Lee Hill's wife and four children and a single sister, were on the ill-fated Southern train which was wrecked yesterday and that all the parties were killed.

The corpses of all seven of the family are expected to arrive this evening or tomorrow morning.

BRITISH TORPEDO BOAT LOST.

The Chamois Wrecked off Grecian Coast—Crew Saved.

London, Sept. 27.—The office has received a dispatch stating that British torpedo boat destroyer, Chamois has been lost off the coast of Greece. All on board were saved.

London, Sept. 27.—The Chamois was conducting speed trials when her propeller blade broke and pierced the bottom of the vessel which sank. Two of the crew were injured.

Lady Curzon Better.

London, Sept. 27.—The following bulletin giving Lady Curzon's condition was issued from Walmor castle this morning. "Lady Curzon passed a fair night with a little natural sleep. Her general strength has not declined, but her condition is still critical and she cannot be said to be out of danger."

London, Sept. 27.—The following bulletin was issued this afternoon: "Lady Curzon maintained the strength fairly well since this morning. This is regarded as a very hopeful sign."

Wreck Reported in Illinois.

Chicago, Sept. 26.—A wreck is reported on the Burlington Railway near Elmwood, Ills. The loss of life, if any is not definitely known.

Elmwood, Ills., Sept. 26.—The Galesburg Peoria passenger train piled in the ditch at 6.30 o'clock this morning by a washout on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy tracks two miles east of here. One person was killed, three fatally injured and twenty-five passengers more or less seriously hurt.

Resignation of Dr. Mills.

The members of the Presbyterian church were made indeed sad on last Sunday morning when their much beloved pastor sent in his letter of resignation. It was read to the congregation by the Rev. W. T. Hall, who was filling the pulpit that day. For over twenty years Dr. Mills has lived in Camden, and endeared himself, not only to his own people, but to the whole town—faithfully and lovingly. He has worked for the Master, and now "in obedience to Him," through the folded hands seem to see his people rejoice, that he will still live in Camden "coming in and out" among them—ever going good. That God may restore him to health and strength, is the earnest wish and prayer of his many friends.—Camden Chronicle.

Chicago, Sept. 2.—Work was resumed this morning at the Pullman Company and International Harvester Company Manufacturing plants, which are the biggest in Chicago, after a brief period of idleness. The men resumed work at reduced wages. Both companies refused to deal with the Unions. A meeting of the Union will be held in a few days to map out a plan against the companies. The cut in wages was made throughout the factories, extending even to employees in the office force.

HOW TO GET MOST FOR COTTON.

Good Advice to Growers—A Large Cotton Producer Talks of the Crop and its Value if Handled Properly.

Half the Crop Should be Held Back—Seed Lower Than Last Year.

This seems to be the day of the farmer, and he is disposed to make the most of it; he is keeping posted in a general way, and on cotton in particular.

An Observer man had a talk, yesterday, with one of the leading cotton growers of the State, and got from him a splendid idea, and some interesting facts. This man has proven himself thoroughly practical by his success; he is nothing of a dreamer. He has over 500 acres in cotton this year, and his crop will be twenty per cent less than it was last year.

In answer to the question: "What do you think of the cotton situation?" "The cotton crop now being harvested can be made the most valuable crop ever gathered, if the farmers will act in concert and on similar lines, in every State, county and community. "There is now no question of the crop being a moderate, if not a very small one, compared to what was expected two, yes one month ago. The whole spinning world is depleted of cotton; must have cotton, no matter what the cost. The present crop can be made to average at least 12 cts. if not 15 cts., per pound to the grower, if the growers will gin and sell cautiously. If only half the cotton picked each week is placed on the market and the other half held back, either stored in bonded warehouse, when money must be obtained, or stored on the farms either ginned and baled or in the seed; there would be no glutting the market for October, November, December, which is the very condition the speculators want, in order that they may be able to buy what will be in active demand the world over, at much higher prices after January 1st.

"What is true of cotton is also true of cotton seed. The oil mills are entering the crushing season with cotton seed oil 10 cts. per gallon lower than last year or for the last five years, and consequently the mills cannot pay by \$5.00 per ton as much as they paid all through the last season for seed.

"We have almost identically the same condition in all crops affecting cotton oil as existed for the season 1892-1893 when cotton oil went to 65 cts. per gallon in February 1893. We have a very short crop of wheat this year, as compared with the crop for several years past. There is no old wheat to be had at any price, and the present price for wheat is 35 per cent higher than last year.

"The present corn crop prospects are for a crop smaller than in ten years, with perhaps one exception, and if as short as now predicted, corn will go to 75 cts., and perhaps higher, per bushel. A short crop and high prices for corn, means a short crop and high prices for hogs; and with hogs high, lard will be high, and high priced lard means high priced cotton oil; then why not high prices for cotton seed paid to the farmers?

The crop of linseed now being harvested in the Northwest, is only about one-half to three-fifths the crop harvested last year, and the result is, linseed is forty per cent, the oil about 30 per cent., linseed cake and meal 35 to 40 per cent. higher.

"But the United States is not the only country with short crops. All of the European countries without a single exception, have the poorest crops of grain, feed and fodder, they have had for years. Russia, the greatest grower and competitor of the United States for the trade of Europe, for wheat, is fully employed trying to whip its very small, and as she supposed, insignificant antagonist—Japan; and the result is she will have no wheat to export, and if the war should continue for several years, as it is very likely to do, Russia will soon be importing wheat and all kinds of provisions. "The olive oil crop of all countries bordering on the Mediterranean Sea is reported on best authority to be only one-half to two-thirds a full crop, and this shortage amounts to more gallons of oil than the total cotton oil crop. The condition of every crop in every country, should warrant cotton oil worth fully double its present price; warrant the mill in paying at least fifty per cent. higher prices for seed. But the mills cannot pay more for seed unless the prices of oil can be advanced to a value all things justify. Oil mills will not pay more for seed than they are obliged to pay, and as long as farmers are selling seed at \$12 to \$14 per ton, mills will not pay \$20 to \$22, the price seed should be selling at.

"The growers of cotton and cotton seed can and should control the markets by holding back both cotton and seed till they can secure a price that all conditions warrant. Unless they do, they will find they have parted with three-fourths of their crop before the advance comes, and the cotton and seed speculator will reap the benefit that belongs to the producer. Hold your cotton and hold your cotton seed till the advance is here with you. It will come much sooner if you hold, for as long as you are parting with your crop freely, the speculator will hold down prices.

"The present crop, if only about 10,000,000 bales, can be made to pay the producers \$70,000,000 to \$75,000,000 total, or from \$625,000,000 to \$650,000,000 for the lint, and from \$60,000,000 to \$75,000,000 for 3,000,000 tons of seed sold, retaining 2,000,000 tons of seed for feeding cattle and for planting next year's crop.

"All that is needed is concerted action and backbone to force the markets to respond to conditions never so favorable to be controlled or adjusted for the grower's interest. It is all ready for your action, and concerted action will control the crop movement and prices for cotton and seed, and give the producer the benefit heretofore always received by the speculative middleman."—Charlotte, N. C. Observer.

Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 24.—Weltering in blood and almost dead, Frank Austin, a wealthy cold storage man of Medina, was found late last night in his building by his son. It is believed that an assault was made on him for the purpose of robbery. The doctors say he cannot live.