

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1909.

The Sumter Watchman was founded in 1850 and the True Southron in 1866. The Watchman and Southron now has the combined circulation and influence of both of the old papers, and is manifestly the best advertising medium in Sumter.

THE COTTON MARKET.

The following article was not written in Sumter or about the Sumter cotton market, but it fits conditions in this city with such exact nicety that a well informed resident of Sumter could not have described conditions more accurately and explicitly. The article refers to the Anderson cotton market, and as will be seen the cotton sellers of Anderson are no better pleased with the average price system than are Sumter county farmers. The system must be wrong or there would not be so much dissatisfaction and complaint. Why not give the plan of buying strictly by grade a fair trial?

"It seems to us that the trouble with the Anderson cotton market is that the cotton is not sold on its merits.

"An average price is offered, and every bale that comes in is sold at that price, whether it is middling, low middling or good middling.

"It is on the same principle as if an average price were fixed for flour and all grades of flour sold at that price.

"Every bale of cotton ought to be sold on its merits. The farmer who has extra good cotton should not be required to take less than it is worth. The farmer who has inferior cotton should not be paid more than it is worth.

"It is claimed that by the average price system the farmers get more for their cotton as a whole than they would get if they sold it strictly on a grade basis. We think there must be some mistake about that. It is not a reasonable proposition.

"But whether the claim is true or not, the present system is causing a great deal of dissatisfaction.

"The question of excess bagging is a matter that will adjust itself. If too much bagging is put on a bale of cotton the buyer has a right to deduct the excess, of course. But he cannot stand up for that right in full good faith unless he has paid the full price for the cotton.

"Twenty or thirty cents worth of bagging on a bale of cotton is a small matter. The real point should be that on the Anderson market cotton will sell for its real value, no more and no less.

"There is no more reason why the mills should pay more for cotton than it is worth than there is that the farmers should sell cotton for less than it is worth.

"And yet this is what happens every day under the present system of fixing an average price—cotton sells either too high or too low. The average price is unfair to either the buyer or the seller, and we believe it is unfair to both.

"Let the Anderson market be put back on the old basis, that of grading all the cotton and selling each bale on its merits. Let a trial be made, anyhow, and let us see if this will not solve the problem."—Anderson Mail.

SUMTER'S GREATEST NEED.

A Traveling Man Endorses the Plan to Build a Modern Hotel.

To the Editor of the Daily Item:

There is a splendid opportunity for outside capitalists to invest their money in an enterprise which is sure to give big returns on their investments and that is to build an up-to-date modern hotel. There is a crying necessity for another. The idea of a city the size of Sumter with, say 15,000 people, a large floating population, having only one place for the accommodation of the traveling public is almost inconceivable, but so it is. The writer was asked by a Northerner on a train entering Sumter which was the best hotel. When told the only one was the best, in fact it was Hobson's choice, either go to the only hotel or take your chances at some boarding house. Now in a city as thriving, progressive and energetic as Sumter, such a condition of affairs should not exist and if the Chamber of Commerce, the merchants, the bankers, and the citizens generally well exert themselves Sumter will have a commodious, well equipped and well constructed hotel, which will be an attraction to the city and materially increase the value of property, and be in keeping with the stately and imposing postoffice, when completed.

Now is the time, the place and the opportunity for capitalists to invest their surplus money in a paying investment and at the same time help to beautify the thriving city of Sumter, and the traveling public well ever pray, etc.

A TRAVELING MAN.

Sumter, S. C., Oct. 20, 1909.

The total receipts of cotton on this market to date exceed 17,000.

Farmers' Union News

—AND—

Practical Thoughts for Practical Farmers

(Conducted by E. W. Dabbs, President Farmers' Union of Sumter County.)

The Watchman and Southron having decided to double its service by semi-weekly publication, would improve that service by special features. The first to be inaugurated is this Department for the Farmers' Union and Practical Farmers which I have been requested to conduct. It will be my aim to give the Union news and official calls of the Union. To that end officers, and members of the Union are requested to use these columns. Also to publish such clippings from the agricultural papers and Government Bulletins as I think will be of practical benefit to our readers. Original articles by any of our readers telling of their successes or failures will be appreciated and published.

Trusting this Department will be of mutual benefit to all concerned, THE EDITOR.

All communications for this Department should be sent to E. W. Dabbs, Mayesville, S. C.

A BIG YIELD OF WHEAT.

Georgia Farmer Grows 300 Bushels On Six Acres.

As requested I will try to inform the readers of your paper how I made 300 bushels of wheat on six acres of common land, says T. C. Kelley, of Henry County, Ga., writing in the Southern Cultivator. I call it common because it formerly made only about half a bale of cotton per acre, this land was cleared about fifteen years ago and has had no extra care, being worked by tenant until last fall some farmers began agitating the wheat question. Some contended that you could not make wheat without cotton seed or manure, and not having much manure, and cotton seed being worth \$1 per hundred, they didn't think it would pay to use seed at that price, some even said seed would buy more flour than your wheat would make.

I decided I would see if wheat couldn't be profitably raised with commercial fertilizers. About the 1st of November I ran a stalk cutter, chopping them fine, afterwards I scattered about 500 pounds Gilt-Edge 10-2-2 guano (made by Atlanta Oil and Fertilizer Company) broadcast per acre and broke land crosswise with scoter ploughs then laid off lands cross the opposite way and broadcast the same amount of guano (500 pounds per acre) again and sowed one bushel of wheat per acre and ploughed in with some single scoter ploughs that I broke with first time, harrowed it over after ploughing in until I got surface thoroughly pulverized. Wheat came up a perfect stand and began to grow nicely. About March 15 I scattered two sacks of nitrate of soda over the six acres, leaving out two small lands. This I think increased the yield considerably, as there was a decided difference in the lands. I left and where I put the nitrate over. Below I give expense of making wheat:

Preparing and sowing.....	\$ 6.00
Broadcasting guano.....	1.00
6 bushels wheat at \$1.30.....	7.80
6,000 pounds guano.....	60.00
2 sacks nitrate of soda.....	12.00
Harvesting with binder.....	6.00
Hauling wheat to thresh.....	5.00
Thresh's total.....	35.00

Total.....\$132.89

Deduct this from 300 bushels of wheat at \$1.30 or \$390, we have a clear profit of \$257.20, or nearly \$43 profit per acre. Besides, I have a fine crop of peavine hay growing on the land, also my land will be in fine shape for a crop another year.

I have land that will make twice as much cotton per acre as the land I sowed in wheat, but it won't near pay the profit that my wheat did.

P. S.—I only had 280 bushels of wheat threshed, but fed about 30 shocks to my stock, conservatively estimating it I place it at 300 bushels.

FOREIGN BUYING OF COTTON.

Surprise Expressed at Amount Going To European Mills.

Boston, Oct. 16.—Considerable surprise is being evinced among American cotton mill treasurers at the present enormous volume of cotton exports, which are going to the mills of Europe, and particularly to England, at a time when the Americans have not entered the market to any extent for their new supplies of the staple. Exports since September I have been larger than in either of the last two years, a total of 984,000 bales this year comparing with 822,000 bales for the same period of last year and 621,000 bales for the same period of 1907.

Considering that foreign mills are in a much worse position than those in this country, and have, in fact, been curtailed to about 5 per cent of capacity for some weeks, it is a question whether these exports represent recent purchases of cotton at prevailing high prices. It is good opinion that they rather represent deliveries on contracts made earlier in the year,

at lower prices, to mills which "hedged" at that time.

Notwithstanding this view, it is no secret that the present situation is causing considerable disappointment among American mills, which were unquestionably depending on a small foreign demand to make for somewhat lower prices for the staple this fall. Many mills in the South and also in New England have already come to the end of their supplies of the old crop, and are now buying from hand to mouth for their current needs. Few, if any mills, however, are stocking up for next year's business.

THE FEEDING OF HOGS.

Live Stock Association Will Take Up Important Matters at the Next Session.

The Live Stock Association will meet just after fair week this year, possibly during the fair, the exact date not having been set yet.

One of the matters that is of vital importance to this association is the feeding of cattle and hogs so as to produce the best results.

Since cottonseed oil mills have grown so common in the South, cottonseed meal has become a standard feed for cattle and has proved most acceptable and profitable, both for dairy cattle and beef cattle. This fact naturally led to experiments in feeding horses, mules and hogs. These experiments have been both successful and unsuccessful, according as proper or improper conditions were observed.

For feeding horses and mules, cottonseed meal may be, with profit, mixed with corn, using one to two pounds of cottonseed meal per day. There have never been any failures or difficulties by this method.

The best ration tried for hogs was two pounds of cottonseed meal and eight pounds of corn well mixed, covered with water and allowed to ferment. The above ration of ten pounds is about right for three days' feed for a 75-pound hog.

The ration produces a gain in weight of one pound for every five pounds fed, while a pure corn ration requires about 13 pounds of feed per pound gained. The total average gain for three months was 57 pounds per head, with the mixed ration, as against 16 1-4 for the corn ration.

It is shown that the farmer saves 60 per cent, of the cost by using the meal for his hogs.

Dr. Whittaker to Speak.

Rev. J. E. Whittaker, D. D., pastor of Holy Trinity church, Lancaster, Pa., will be here to lecture in St. James church next Monday night. Subject: "The Reformation of the Sixteenth Century."

Dr. Whittaker is a very prominent and influential member of the General Council. A man of pleasing address, fine speaker and pupil orator; an author, and a man of wide experience and very capable of handling his subject to the delight of his audience. His lecture will be edifying and instructive. Next Monday night, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

Doll Bazaar.

The members of Sumter's Home Chapter, D. A. R., are preparing to hold a Doll Bazaar about the last of November. There will be dolls of all kinds for sale, large and small, besides other features attractive for young and old. A new game is promised for the little ones. The proceeds from this sale will be used in furthering the work of the D. A. R.'s, which is educational and patriotic.

Mose Pierson, alias St Plunkard, who escaped from a court constable after having been convicted of larceny in the Court of General Sessions more than a year ago, and recently captured in Florida, and brought back, was brought into court Monday and the sealed sentence left by Judge Watts read to him. He was given two years on the chain-gang.

THE IDEAL UNIVERSITY.

President Woodrow Wilson of Princeton Says That It Should Insure the Awakening of the Whole Man.

The word "university" means, in our modern usage, so many different things that almost every time one employs it, it seems necessary to define it, says Woodrow Wilson, President of Princeton University. Nowhere has it so many meanings as in America, where institutions of all kinds display it in the titles they bestow upon themselves. School, college and university are readily enough distinguishable, in fact, by those who take the pains to look into the scope and methods of their teaching; but they are quite indistinguishable, oftentimes, in name. They are as likely as not all to bear the same title.

The American university as we now see it consists of many parts. At its heart stands the college, school of general training. Above and around the college stand the graduate and technical schools, in which special studies are prosecuted and preparation is given for particular professions and occupations. Technical and professional schools are not a necessary part of a university, but they are greatly benefited by close association with a university; and the university itself is unmistakably benefited and quickened by the transmission of its energy into them and the reaction of their standards and objects upon it.

There is an ideal at the heart of everything American, and the ideal at the heart of the American university is intellectual training, the awakening of the whole man, the thorough introduction of the student to the life of America and of the modern world, the completion of the task undertaken by the grammar and high schools of equipping him for the full duties of citizenship. It is with that idea that I have said that the college stands at the heart of the American university. The college stands for liberal training. Its object is discipline and enlightenment. The average thoughtful American does not want his son narrowed in all his gifts and thinking to a particular occupation. He wishes him to be made free of the world in which men think about and understand many things, and to know how to handle himself in it. He desires a training for him which will give him a considerable degree of elasticity and adaptability, and fit him to turn in any direction he chooses.

If the American college were to become a vocational school, preparing only for particular callings, it would be thoroughly un-American. It would be serving special, not general, needs, and seeking to create a country of specialized men without versatility or general capacity.

Knew Its True Value.

Sylvester Long, of Dayton, O., tells this story of some commercial friends of his:

A customer who bought in a small way from the wholesalers and whose credit was not of the sort known as gilt-edged, visited the city and purchased a \$2,800 bill of goods, paying \$2,500 in cash and giving his note for the remaining \$300.

After the transaction had been closed and the paper and currency had changed hands the customer said: "Now, after a deal of that size it is customary to give the purchaser a present. Come across with it."

"We'll throw in a pair of suspenders," laughed the salesman, temporizingly.

"A pair of suspenders, eh! Say, quit fooling. I really mean it. I expect you to do something in acknowledgment of my patronage."

The salesman went to the manager with the problem and the manager said:

"Well, if he feels that way about it we might encourage him a bit. We'll do something that ought to please him greatly. Give him back his \$300 note. Make him a present of his paper. That will make him a cash customer, raise his credit and save him money besides."

The salesman went back, pleased to be the bearer of such joyful tidings of liberality in business.

"Well, sir," he said, "we've argued about that present, all right. 'Here,' with a flourish, 'is your note. We give it back to you.'"

The customer did not seem enthusiastic. Instead, without looking at the note, he asked:

"Is it indorsed?"

"No," said the salesman in astonishment.

"Then I guess you better gimme the suspenders," said the disappointed customer.—Chicago News.

The United States government is spending \$85,000 in the erection of new barracks and other buildings on Sullivan's Island.

The Marlboro county grand jury charges that there is something wrong in the accounts of the treasurer and superintendent of education and recommends the employment of an expert to check over the books.

OLD ACADMEY AT WILLINGTON.

Judge Longstreet, Author of "Georgia Scenes," Studied at Edgefield School, Where Calhoun, McDuffie, Legare, Pettigru, Crawford and Patrick Were Trained by Moses Waddell.

(George F. Mellen in the Chattanooga News.)

By the fathers and mothers of many of us few names were cherished with more fondness than that of Augustus B. Longstreet. I recall how my father, who went to Georgia as a New England schoolmaster, used to laugh over the pranks and jokes of "Ned Brace," as delineated in that always refreshing book of humor, "Georgia Scenes." As the author of this book, Judge Longstreet will long live, when his work as lawyer, judge, preacher and college president shall have become dim through age. Bishop O. P. Fitzgerald of Nashville, in his "Longstreet—A Life Sketch," tells us enough about the boyhood of this noble and useful man to make one wish that, even within a brief space he had given a nearer view.

The first glimpse of the boy is as a pupil in Richmond academy, in his native city, Augusta, Ga. The tasks are irksome. The teachers are without love and sympathy. In after years he spoke of the school as having been a "hateful penitentiary." Surely, there must have been some use of the rod or the dunce cap that left so unpleasant memory. Men who have risen to great eminence were treated in school with what was called "a dose of hickory oil." Thomas Carlyle, the great English writer, confessed that it was once applied very helpfully in his own career. While at school he boldly told the teacher that he had grave doubts about the Bible and Christianity as divine. To this the principal of the "Blue-Coat School" replied: "Come this way, my lad, and take off your jacket." Soundly thrashed for his skepticism, he ever afterwards, he said, found himself clothed in his right mind, and his vanity gone.

William H. Crawford, who came very near being a president of the United States, was for three years a teacher in this academy, at the close of the eighteenth century. It must have been a little later when Augustus was having much trouble. He said that it was the language in which the rules of the book were given that he could not understand and the teachers gave him little or no help.

After a while the father of Augustus moved to Edgefield district in South Carolina. There the boy spent two happy years. Under the open sky, in the freshness of country life, amid the resinous smell of old field pines, he waxed strong. His ambition came to be to show himself the best runner, the best jumper and the best wrestler of his neighborhood. This free, easy, joyous life, it was granted to him to enjoy no longer than two years. Richmond academy was again to claim him as a student. He was loath to return. The experiences and trials of former years haunted him like a cruel vision. However, the turning point of his career came through the new associations he enjoyed in Augusta.

George McDuffie was clerking in the city. The two were only about forty days apart in age. They chanced to be thrown under the same roof, and became roommates. The rare promise which McDuffie fulfilled in after life as a statesman was displayed while a merchant's clerk. His mind was filled with a burning desire for good knowledge. Such books and newspapers as came in his way he eagerly read. Slowly, but certainly, his love for knowledge was communicated to his companion. In his joy over the good things he read he insisted on reading aloud to Augustus Longstreet. At first the latter found it irksome, then endurable and finally delighted. After this, as it were, their intimacy grew and ripened. Their tastes had become congenial. Their association reacted beneficially. Through observation young Augustus derived constant aid. He saw that young George, after reading a book or newspaper, remembered far more of the contents than he. Therefore, he set himself diligently to the work of improving his memory and of discriminating in the choice of reading matter.

Two more years were spent at Richmond academy. When these were ended young Longstreet and McDuffie were sent to Dr. Moses Waddell at Willington, South Carolina. This was the most famous preparatory school of the South. Dr. Waddell, who afterwards accepted the presidency of the University of Georgia, was known as the South's "Thomas Arnold," and Willington as its "Rugby." Here were trained such men as John C. Calhoun, William H. Crawford, Hugh S. Legare, James L. Pettigru and other men who came to enjoy like fame. Among students were, in embryo, a vice president, foreign ministers, members of cabinets, governors, senators, congressmen and men of every honorable station in life. McDuffie rose to a United States senatorship and to the governorship of South Carolina. Longstreet became a judge. While

the nominee of his party, the Democratic, for congress, with his election assured, he gave up the nomination. He became a preacher, subsequently to become the president of church colleges and State universities. A political career, so auspiciously begun, was forever abandoned, though he never lost interest in political affairs.

The boys who attend the academies of the present, with their fine buildings, beautiful grounds and comfortable quarters, have little idea of what was the character of Willington when Judge Longstreet attended it. As most academies in the South before the Civil War, it was situated on the principal's lands, in the depths of the country, far away from any city. In its most prosperous days it was attended by 130 students. These lived in log cabins, whose chimneys were mostly sticks, though sometimes of brick. In long rows they fronted each other. Strung out underneath the over-arching oaks, they formed a long street. At its end stood the two-room school building, a frame structure. One room was for the little fellows, the other for the more advanced boys.

Besides books, here the boys were taught the doctrine of self-help. They not infrequently built their own huts or cabins. For fuel they were required to go into the woods for the supply. Once, addressing the students of a college, he urged the lesson and benefit of manual labor upon young men. He said that during the three years of his pupillage at Willington all the fuel consumed on his hearth was cut from the woods by himself and room-mates, and was borne a long distance to their door. Often they gave four hours to this work, following it with five hours of evening study. Those were days of heroic effort and aspiration. Among the students likewise engaged with him were George N. Gilmer, who became a governor of Georgia; Hugh S. Legare, who became a cabinet member and minister to a foreign court and McDuffie, whose positions of honor were numerous.

Under Dr. Waddell, Willington prepared students for the junior class of any American college. Calhoun and Longstreet entered this class in Yale college, Patrick Noble, who was governor of South Carolina entered the same class at Princeton, while McDuffie entered the junior class in South Carolina college. After two years at Yale and one year in a Connecticut law school, Judge Longstreet entered upon his long, varied and brilliant career.

Cotton Bearing Trees.

A test is to be made of the value of the fibre of the cotton bearing trees which grow wild in Sonora and Sinaloa, Mexico. The tree is known to the Mexicans as the *aldone*. The staple of the cotton is not as long as that grown by the American planter, but there is no need of ginning it. Merely flaying it with a pole while it is spread out on a canvas or a floor will rid it of the seeds. The staple is about an inch long.

Charles Cummins, a rancher who has a hacienda near La Pastorilla in Sonora, has been experimenting with the cotton and is preparing to put up a small mill to weave cloth as an experiment. He believes that he will be able to produce a cloth as good as anything that can be made from ordinary cotton, and if so he says there is enough of the product in Mexico to supply that country with all the cotton goods it will need.

The Mexicans have never attempted to weave the fibre, but they have for ages been using the lint for filling mattresses and pillows, and they find that it is far superior to ordinary cotton as it is spongy and does not gather into knots.

The bolls are much larger than the cotton bolls. The method of Mexicans in gathering the cotton is to pull the bolls just about the time they are ripe enough to open and before they begin to drop their contents, and to let them dry, when they will crack open and the lint can be moved readily. The lint is then piled on a canvas or a floor and is flayed after the old-fashioned way of threshing wheat, and the seeds readily drop out of the lint. The fibre is then gathered up and is ready for use.

Mr. Cummings says the fibre is stronger than the American cotton and he believes the cloth will be more durable.

That Tired Feeling.

John G. Johnson, Philadelphia's famous lawyer, was discussing drunkenness from the legal point of view in the smokeroom of the Rotterdam. "No," said Mr. Johnson smiling, "the law doesn't take the eccentric view of drunkenness that prevails among hard drinkers.

"A hard drinker's view of drunkenness is very odd. I once knew a man who had been seen by several witnesses snoring over a large beer and a small whiskey in a saloon. This man, though, swore he was not drunk.

"I was only," he said, "fatigued with drinking."—Chicago Journal.