THE WATCHMAN AND SOUTHRON, DECEMBER 14. 1912

Work for the Plant Breeders.

er backing.

The meeting referred to was called | cated must follow. parts of the State.

sary to future success.

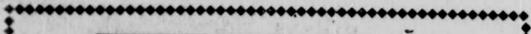
The improvement of cotton, corn of the organization believe that there

There is in progress in Columbia to- ter plants and through better plants, in plant breeding, they believe that day a meeting, the result of which larger and more profitable crops, and they may succeed in interesting many will be of tremendous importance to through larger and more profitable of the people, who by nature and edthe future uplift and prosperity of the crops, increase in the general welfare, ucation are best fitted for the work State of South Carolina if the efforts prosperity and happiness of the peo- and they have hopes of the general of the broad minded, patriotic men ple. A great and glorious object, this: results that would follow. who are seeking to put splendid ideas but not at all unreasonable or vis- Luther Burbank is generally and into execution, only receive the prop- lonary, for as surely as proper in- commonly referred to as the plant

by David R. Coker, of Hartsville, Hon. | What is plant breeding? Hundreds with plants and constituted so im-E. J. Watson, commissioner of agri- of readers, farmer readers of The En- measurably to the wealth, pleasure culture, Dr. A. C. Moore of the Uni- quirer, will say they do not know, and happiness of mankind. But Luthversity of South Carolina, Prof. J. N. and they really think they don't; but er Burbank despises the name of wiz-Harper, director of the experiment we venture that right now in York zard, because he knows that there station at Clemson, Mr. J. Swinton county, there is much knowledge of is nothing even mysterious about his Bailes, of Edisto Island and Presi- plant breeding and if that knowledge achievements. He is not inclined to dent E. W. Dabbs of the Farmers' were only directed, trained and stim- admit that he has done anything re-Union, and is attended by representa- ulated, within a very few years it markable. All that he is willing to tive farmers and others from different could be paying tremendous dividends concede is, that by close study and -much larger than now.

ganization of the South Carolina Plant several ways; but mainly by intelli- enabled him to improve some plants Breeders' Association, and the object gent seed selection, and the encour- tremendously and bringing about the is no doubt accomplished so far as the agrement of intelligent seed selection is creation of others. The most that preparatory routine is concerned; but the principal aim of the association; Burbank has ever done has been the great task now is to push the but not all. It is hoped that there will through intelligent seed selection. He proparanda and enlist the live, intelli- be defined a more general knowledge has taken a given plant, selected and gent people whose support is neces- of what science has learned as to planted the best seed year after year grafting, crossing, etc. The members

wheat, oats, and in fact, all kinds of are as much good brains in South





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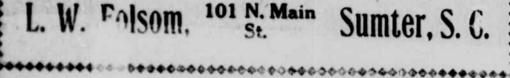
plants is the great object in view, and Carolina as elsewhere and while they the object of this improvement is bet- do not expect to interest everybody

terest is worked up, the results indi- wizzard. It is because he has worked so many seeming miracles on and communion with nature, he has dis-The object of the meeting is the or- Plant breeding is accomplished in covered some simple secrets that have until he has developed more perfect specimens. Of course he has excelled in and along all lines of plant breed.ing, but in none of the things that he has done, will he admit that there was more real difficulty in them than in the simple process of seed selection.

Every farmer in the county who can read, knows of the improved varieties of cotton that have been produced in the last fifty years, and that the improvement has been brought about mainly by seed selection. It was in this way that Mr. David R. Coker has improved the cotton in Darlington county, mainly around Hartsville, until Darlington county cotton now brings more money by hundreds of thousands of dollars than the same number of pounds of the kind grown a few years ago would bling.

Of course plant breeding is a slow. tedious process; but since any intelligent individual can do it by careful, | persistent effort look how much genuine intellectual pleasure there is in prospect, and how much profit. Where is there greater happiness and what is more ennobling than this thing of actually getting down close to nature? The pecuniary rewards are almost al- pretty good farmers-who care noth-





ways great; but those who are most ing for plant breeding and who do successful in pursuits of this kind al- not believe they could become in- see in this paper, "I read your ad. in selves; they do not chide you if you ast invariably reach a point where terested but there are others who the Watchman and Southron." He make mistakes; they do not laugh at sieen the pleasure and hap- feel an interest and who would like will appreciate you telling him and so piness it gives them more than they to know a great deal more than they will we

Say to the merchant whose ad. you of them they do not withdraw them von if von are ignorant .-- Richard De Bury



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greater demand on your finances. After the Festive Season has gone and there remains nothing but the thoughts of glorious festivities, why not change the old way and have something left. We ask you this one plain question. Don't you realize that if your pantry was stocked plentiful at a great saving that you and your family would receive the greatest CHRISTMAS PRESENT EVER BEFORE CONCEIVED BY MORTAL.

Then call on us. We will make special prices to you and thereby help you save.

REMEMBER: It all depends on you Mr. Wage Earner. It's up to you to have a say in the distribution of the cherished funds.

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