

# DAILY REFLECTOR.

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The *Progressive Farmer* can't help but confess that our last legislature was the most extravagant body we have had in twenty years.

Mr. McClammy, the Democratic Representative in the last legislature from New Hanover county, seems to have gotten into deep water on account of his position in the legislature upon the question of abolishing the criminal court in his county and establishing the one that was established. His position was indefensible and he will not receive much sympathy for the roasting he is getting at the hands of Mr. Meares.

## LOCAL NOTES AND TOBACCO JOTTINGS.

BY O. L. JOYNER.

A load of tobacco is getting to be an uncommon sight now on the market.

It is thought that the South Carolina tobacco crop will be largely increased this year.

Mr. L. E. Dudley, from near Vauceboro, in Craven county, was on the market Wednesday with the last of his crop. Mr. Dudley says there are ten new tobacco barns now within a mile square of his house.

We were told a few days ago by a Granville county man that numbers of the tobacco farmers in that section were not using any commercial fertilizer this year. Numbers of others were planting small grain on their land instead of tobacco and all were preparing to make more wheat and bread.

We are frequently asked what effect the increased tobacco acreage in Eastern North Carolina

will have on the price of tobacco next fall. This depends largely on the quality made and the percent of decrease in acreage further up the country. There is not likely to be any effect upon the price of good tobacco unless there is an extraordinary good crop made all over the country, which is not hardly probable, and in that event while fancy prices may not be obtained for small piles, yet the all round average we do not think will be much affected and on the whole there will be much more money made on the crop. For the sale of the common grades of tobacco we are dependent on foreign orders and if they are placed early and are heavy, fair prices may be expected, but on the whole it is best to calculate for low prices on common goods.

It seems to us that the recent destructive fires that have almost swept from the face of the earth our beautiful sister town Kinston, ought to serve as a strong object lesson to some of her more fortunate neighbors to take proper steps and prepare well for such an emergency. Here in Greenville at present we have no means of ever extinguishing a fire after it once gets full under the control of the flames until checked only for lack of something to burn. What awful, heart-rending havoc a fire would play should some parts of our town catch on some of these windy days. Nothing is more trouble to imagine than mad leaping flames of fire beyond human control, and here we are in Greenville almost daily leisurely by reading dispatches of the conflagration of our sister town not 30 miles away without taking any steps to protect our property in case it should become necessary. There is no reason on earth why we should not have a good fire company and fire engine.

A few days ago we received a letter from a gentleman living in Pantego, in the extreme eastern portion of Beaufort county asking us to come down there and see if their lands were suitable for tobacco and if they could grow it profitably. In regard to the former question we are prepared to believe that tobacco is a weed that will grow luxuriously in any soil in North Carolina from the

smoky sides of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the sand washed beach of Roanoke Island, but in regard to the latter many have tried, many have failed and few have succeeded very admirably in the cultivation of tobacco, for it is a crop that requires the most careful thought and judgment from the preparation of the plant bed till the crop is marketed, and at no stage during this time can you consider a crop safe till you have your money for it. As to the kind of soil on which tobacco should be planted that is a question very little considered now a days. There was a time not very long ago when only a gray soil was selected for tobacco, but as the cultivation began to spread necessity forced a great many to plant dark land and some of the brightest tobacco we ever saw grew on black pine woods land, so we say unhesitatingly that the former popular idea of selecting particular soils for tobacco is rapidly passing away. Of course no one will understand us to mean that tobacco will amount to much planted on lands on river or reek bottoms and in speaking of dark soil, mould land well drained is referred to. Hence we have no doubt but that tobacco would grow and mature all right on Pungo swamp and the only serious difficulty it seems to us that one would encounter in this section would be the danger of the tobacco damaging after it was cured on account of the salt water atmosphere.

## TO THOSE.

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