







# TOBACCO DEPARTMENT

Conducted by O. L. JOYNER, Proprietor Eastern Tobacco Warehouse.

## LOCAL NOTE AND TOBACCO JOTTINGS.

Mr. Harry Stubbs, of Williams- ton, Deputy collector of internal revenue was on the market Thursday looking after the revenue books of the buyers.

Greenville is the coming tobacco market of the east. If you don't believe it ask some visiting tobacco man and he will tell you that it is bound to be, for the tobacco is here and tobacco men are coming here to get it.

Messrs J. N. Gorman & Co, expect to do quite a large business on this market next season. Owing to the time when their business was commenced here last year they were not able to do as much as they had hoped but will be on deck at the beginning of the next tobacco year.

In another column will be found a communication from a Pitt Co farmer, one that thoroughly foresees the future of Greenville as a tobacco market, one who is deeply interested in the upbuilding of home industries, scientific as well as a practical farmer, a man of ability and merit. We ask every citizen and business man in Greenville to read and carefully study the views of a man that hasn't a cent at stake in the weal or woe of the market.

Mr. J. W. Morgan, buyer of the American Tobacco company, authorizes us to state that he will want a leaf factory next year at least 40x140 5 stories high and that he will pay a handsome rent for such a house. Mr. Morgan has bought heavily on this market the past year and instead of re-ordering his stock here he has had to ship it elsewhere, thereby giving the rehanding of it to another town. If Mr. Morgan can get such a house he will give employment to at least twenty hands during most of the year. The money paid these hands will be spent in Greenville and the merchants here will get the benefit of it.

We have heard it rumored that a movement was on foot to build another tobacco warehouse in Greenville during the summer. While everybody to their own notion said the old woman, yet it really seems very foolish to fill

the town full of warehouses when we haven't got prize houses enough to store away what tobacco we already sell. Some one may say that we would naturally oppose because it would increase our competition. Not so, no mercenary motive actuates us in so speaking. Give us four more large prize houses and we'll heartily be in favor of another warehouse. With eight good prize houses and three good warehouses the market would sell nearly twice as much as it does now and hence our business with others would be largely increased, but with only four prize houses we fail to see the benefit to be derived from it. Let us have the prize rooms first, warehouses will be sure to follow.

Quite a number of our Eastern farmers that never before planted any tobacco are going into it this year. While we are strongly of the opinion that Eastern North Carolina is the natural home of bright tobacco yet it would be wise to step cautiously on commencing the culture of tobacco. To the beginners we would say don't let the vagaries of an enthusiastic planter and one that has made money out of tobacco mislead you. It is not everyone that goes into tobacco that makes a fortune out of it. A great many fail and on commencing the cultivation of tobacco it would be well to make allowance for mishaps and in case the mishap comes then you will be better prepared to meet it. Those of you who anticipate planting eight acres of tobacco this year and never planted any before, let us suggest that you reduce it just one half. Use the same amount of fertilizers and manures, give it the same careful attention and cultivation that you would eight, and in the fall you will get fully as much if not more than if you had planted eight. Then if your experience teaches you well, go into it gradually. This advice closely heeded we think will be of great service to new beginners.

It is inexcusable in persons to go to church, and disturb the public worship, or go to a public meeting and annoy the audience by unseemly exhibitions of themselves in coughing, when a few doses of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, that peerless remedy for cough and cold, will surely cure their cold. Try it.

We heard it remarked to-day by one of the buyers that it really seemed that the town was at enmity with the promoters of the tobacco industry; that he actually heard one of our merchants say the culture of tobacco had damaged the farmers of Eastern Carolina. We never asked because it would not be worth very much to anyone to know who this Solomon sage and self constituted councillor might be. Evidently to our mind whoever it was is a gentleman of the old school of economists whose fortune (if he has any) was made not by the exercise of an ingenious brain but by the natural force of circumstances. If there is any good reason why any good citizen should cry down the extension of or crush out the tobacco market then there would be some excuse for opposing it, but the only reason that we have heard as yet is nothing but the rashest kind of blind prejudice. In the full light of reason we can see but one objectionable feature to the cultivation of tobacco and that is the fact that merchants who have been doing a credit business under the mortgage system are put to a little more inconvenience in making their collections out of a tobacco crop. Tobacco can be sold and the proceeds appropriated to the debtor's use more easily than cotton because the merchant is not a tobacco buyer, while with cotton he is the soul sovereign in marketing time. The writer has no more patience with this class of debtors than the merchants whom they owe and the only way to avoid bad debts with such people is let them alone. Oh, well, some one may say, we'll have to let the majority of them alone then. All right, so much the better for both the debtor and creditor. If it is one stroke toward breaking the neck of the mortgage system it is the best thing for the country that has ever happened. It is this and not tobacco that has wrought such disaster not only to the farmers of Eastern Carolina but all over the entire South. In one of the Eastern counties of this State we have it from good authority that there has not been fifteen mortgages recorded in the clerk's office this year. That county is in a prosperous condition. There is very

little trading on time and hence but few debts that can't be collected. Merchants, ha'n't you rather sell your goods for cash and get a small profit on them than to sell for double the profit and only collect three, fourths and make the honest man pay the dishonest man's debt, thereby encouraging dishonesty and unseating credit. The staple product of the county referred to above is tobacco and has been since the earliest history of North Carolina. Let's see if tobacco hurts the Eastern farmer and in order to do so we will compare the farmer of to-day with the farmer of 1884, a decade ago. At that time cotton the only monetary crop of the eastern section was selling at from 10 to 12 1/2 cts per pound.

There were possibly ten or a dozen farmers in the county that were making money, say making a thousand dollars a year clear. Those who were out of debt at that time could manage to stay so by not spending much money for luxuries. There was not much money in the country, cotton began to decline and soon got down below the cost of production and in wandering around for something else to make a living from tobacco was found and has been rapidly increasing in acreage ever since that time. Go in the country to-day, and while you will not find much money, (for the most of it has been used to pay debts that were contracted when nothing was grown but cotton,) the farmers as a whole are more independent than they have been in twenty years. There is more bacon, more corn, more wheat and more living at home than there has been since this writer could first remember. Then again there are an hundred farmers in Pitt and Green counties to-day that last year sold their tobacco crop for over one hundred dollars an acre. Have they ever done that well on cotton? There was not a dozen farmers in the east last year that knew anything about the cultivation of tobacco who did not sell their tobacco for more to the acre than they did their cotton. No, a thousand times no. The eastern farmer has not damaged himself by going into tobacco nor any other diversified farming. The author of the remark which called forth this article doubtless spoke unthoughtedly. If he did not, then it is either prejudice against tobacco or the grossest kind of unparadonable ignorance. If the former he should repent and confess, if the latter he should hide himself.

**A FARMER WRITES.**  
MR. EDITOR: Seeing in your last issue that communications upon any topic of general interest to the welfare of the agriculturists throughout the "new Golden Belt" would have your careful attention, I want to write commending your course in calling for the united effort of the business men of Greenville for the upbuilding of the tobacco trade. I have often thought of the lack of general interest of the business men of the town to the tobacco market, it is too prominent to escape the notice of anyone. Why this lack of interest? I suppose not because they are not aware of the great good tobacco does in upbuilding any town wherein sold: It is not for want of money, for there are several men in the town with ample capital to help the market in many ways. Possibly there may be more money in handling second hand clothing and taking crop liens than in prize houses. I was in Greenville a few days ago, when several of the young men who are there now, buying, spoke of the necessity for more houses in which to handle next year's crop. To my utter astonishment, it was told that the American Tobacco Company's man was compelled to ship to Durham re-order. We farmers are told we can't afford to buy western meat and horses—true, and can Greenville afford to let work go out of her borders that would give employment to many, who are now compelled to loaf. What an item alone would have been spent in Greenville for sundry articles if the American Tobacco Company could have gotten prize roots in which to reorder. Instead Durham got the benefit of what Greenville was entitled to in one instance, to say nothing of others too numerous to mention. I remember on one occasion last fall during November I think, being in the store of one of Greenville's merchants when one of his clerks, came in having sold his tobacco at a neighboring market. The merchant seemed well pleased at the sales, but when he asked his tenant if he wanted any goods his answer was no,—why? because he had purchased them in the town where he sold his crop. Only a natural result visit this man, and I am told he has plenty of company, only owns a share or two in the Greenville Warehouse Company.

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