

THE EASTERN REFLECTOR.

GREENVILLE, N. C.

D. J. WHICHARD, Ed. & Owner.

Entered at the Post Office at Greenville, N. C., as Second-Class Mail Matter.

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1899.

PAY UP AND GET A BIG PRIZE.

By special arrangement made with the publishers of the *Farm Journal* we are enabled to offer a 5-year subscription to that paper to every new subscriber who pays for *The Eastern Reflector* yearly and the same offer is made to every old subscriber who will pay all back dues and one year in advance—both papers for the price of one only.

In order to get the *Farm Journal* as a premium for advance payment it will be necessary to walk right up to the captain's office, for we have only a limited number of 5-year subscriptions to dispose of. The *Farm Journal* is on solid foundation and perfectly trustworthy.

AGAIN WE SAY, TAKE CARE, AOE.

Just after the big fire of February, 1896, that swept away the upper portion of main street, THE REFLECTOR tried to speak a word of encouragement to those who suffered most thereby. Now that a similar disaster has visited another section of the business portion of the town we would again undertake to encourage those upon whom the blow falls. Men, take courage! Look up! Don't gaze in despair at the mound of ashes that marks the destruction of your business prospects, but turn your faces again to the conflict determined that out of these ashes shall rise the phoenix of your success. Have faith in God and in yourself and never give up. And to those so fortunate as to escape the disaster, let us urge you to extend the encouraging hand to the unfortunate. Many a man's life has been turned and brightened by a little act or word at the right time. Let this disaster cement ties of business relations between us. The misfortune of one is felt more or less by all, and the prosperity of one is to a certain extent participated in by all. Let us therefore work together for each other and for Greenville.

In the municipal election in Baltimore Tuesday the Democrats carried the city by 9,000 majority. The color line was a leading issue in the campaign, and the Republicans carried the negro vote heavily a burden to carry.

One day we have the Philippine war almost ended and the next day fighting is reported as brisk as ever.

JOHNSON'S MILLS ITEMS.

JOHNSON'S MILLS, N. C., May 9th. The tobacco plants are needing rain.

The potato crop is looking fine. W. E. Mecklen gave us a pleasant call yesterday.

A very large crowd attended the quarterly conference of the Synod at Sunday.

Miss Sarah Harding returned home last week after spending some time at home.

E. J. Cox, Zola Bland, W. C. Meeklen and G. B. Kilpatrick attended the annual picnic of the Coppers landing last Saturday.

Miss Julia McCutcher, of Grifton, is visiting Mrs. Lizzie Bland.

One Dose

Read the story. When your head aches and you feel full, empty, cold, and out of time with your work, and no appetite, just try a package of

Headache Pills

And feel a dose from 1 to 4 pills. You will be surprised at how easily they will do their work. They cure headache and biliousness, cause the bowels and stomach to move, and give you a good appetite. 25 cents. Sold by all medicine dealers.

TOBACCO IN PITT COUNTY.

Comparative Review of the Annual Production and Prices at Which it has sold since 1886.

By O. L. JOYNER.

I have been asked to write up the annual production of tobacco in Pitt county since it first began to be grown here as a commercial commodity, also the price at which it sold each year. As I have to depend mainly on memory, I may fall in error in some statements, but as the information is sought by parties living outside of the county a general, or approximate estimate will serve the purpose.

In 1886, the first year that tobacco was grown down east, there was only a small acre planted. It seems that all the tobacco was planted the first year along the river road leading from Greenville to Tarboro. About three miles from Greenville, as I have often written before, the first preparation for tobacco culture was begun. Prior to this, however, the late B. W. Brown planted a small lot but about it unprofitable, and about this time Mr. James R. Tappan planted some and had about the same experience.

On the south side of the river it seems the crop took more favorably. There was a very small quantity raised the first year and I do not remember what it sold for. I do know, however, that some of it sold very well and some did not, some planters were enthusiastic over it. The next year a larger area was planted and the prices obtained were more satisfactory. About the first year that our tobacco commanded much attention was 1890. That year I suppose something like one and a half to two million pounds were produced and the price at which it sold was the whole section. I should say that the average that year for everything was 12 to 14 cents.

Two next years the crop was about double and averaged about 10 cents, probably 9 cents. I will say, however, that the protracted heavy rains during July and August 1891 almost totally ruined the crop and made it fit for nothing, some can export with a few bright lines and good cutters. The year 1892 was a better crop year and there was raised in the county that year about three and a half million pounds which sold at about 10 cents average. Since then we have sold on the Greenville market as well as I remember, each year respectively as follows:

1893, Two and a quarter million pounds at an average of about 10 cents.

1894, Three and a half million pounds at an average of about 9 cents.

1895, Four million pounds at about 8 to 9 cents.

1896, Five million pounds at an average of about 8 cents.

1897, Six and a half million pounds at an average of about 7 to 8 cents.

1898, Eight and a half million pounds at an average of 8 to 9 cents.

All this is written from memory and it is difficult to keep in mind dates and figures. As a matter of course the Secretary of the Board of Trade has the figures for each year but at this time the Secretary is out of town and I have depended, entirely upon memory, which, however, I am sure is approximately accurate.

It will be observed that for the last five years there has been a small decrease in the general average, till last year, however, a small increase, notwithstanding the fact that the percent of common tobacco was larger than it has been any year since 1892. The decrease in the price of common tobacco has not been as much as the decrease in the quantity of these goods. Every one knows that for two years past common tobacco has sold remarkably well, while the brighter goods have sold remarkably low, that is, in proportion to the way it formerly sold, and as compared with the common goods.

There seems to be a very good feeling in tobacco circles and the general opinion is that it will sell well next season, the foreign demand for our tobacco is increasing and therein lies encouragement for tobacco farmers.

WINTERVILLE DEPARTMENT.

NEWSY HAPPENINGS AND BUSINESS NOTES.

By O. L. JOYNER.

WINTERVILLE, May 6th, '99. We had quite a dusty wind Wednesday evening. Bring your sewing and fitting to Mrs. Sarah Carroll and sister. Farmers are taking advantage of this nice weather to set out tobacco. Have been unable to get a phone message to Greenville since the fire.

A. B. Beacham, from Aurora, brother to the Mr. Beacham who is in the mercantile business here, came in last night.

R. L. Jones of this place, who makes the Jones Cultivator, just returned last night from Washington and other points, where he has been taking orders.

Mrs. H. M. Dixon's mother, Mrs. Williams, from Wharton, and her brother and little niece Emma, came down to see her Tuesday night. Mr. Williams returned next morning, but Mrs. Williams and Emma will stay awhile.

Sure to know that fire has destroyed so much for the merchants of Greenville, but it can't destroy their reputation. Just say you can burn up your cigars, but we want their good reputation to be indestructible.

TOBACCO PLANTS.—The A. G. Cox Mill Co. are using a special fastening to join their tobacco leaves, thus you are safe from the risk arising from joints coming apart by heating and cooling of the leaves. They are using fine material and can deliver them at any time. Prices are guaranteed to be as low as any. Come or send your orders at once.

BETHEL DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY C. H. JAMES.

BETHEL, N. C., April 28th, '99. At the regular town meeting the following officers were elected: Mayor, S. A. Gahner. Commissioners, S. T. Carson, J. R. Ward, George Barnhill, D. W. Gray and Henry W. Martin. They are all able men and Bethel expects good government. Wonder what they will do first?

James Keel, of Keelsville, who has been attending Bethel High school for some time has accepted a position with Bloom & Keel, of the same place. I believe, too, that half of the delegation from New York will be for Bryan. You know they elect delegates to Congressional districts in New York, and that will insure the expression of the sentiment of the people.

The Senator expressed the opinion that the populists would hold the first National Convention next year and would nominate Bryan. Speaking of the letter of the Gov. of South Dakota, asking for the discharge of the volunteers from the state, and of the Philippine policy, Senator Pettigrew said: "In his letter to President McKinley, Gov. Keel correctly represented the sentiment of the people of our state. I consider the life of one of the brave boys from South Dakota was more than all the Filipinos living. There is no justification for killing these people away. The possession of these islands is worth but little from any point of view, we can't make much out of a race whose labor is paid at the rate of 1 cent a day. Our entire policy regarding them is wrong, and though men who oppose it are denounced as traitors, I believe the time will soon come when they will be looked upon as the true patriots."

At the Opera. "The Two Orphans" presented Friday night at the Opera House by DeWitt's Fun Makers was the best of all. A good audience, considering the drawbacks, was present and were delighted. Miss DeWitt as "Henrietta," one of the orphans, was perfect in her character and elicited well merited applause. She is an exceptionally fine actress. Miss La Belle as "Louise," Henrietta's blind sister, was far above anything we have seen here in some time. A different role to assume. The other characters were well sustained. The specialties were very good and Mr. Woodford was again called back three times. "He never forget it as long as I live." He is a warm humorist. Mr. Gilbert is so funny for anything and as great as the "guardian angel." Miss La Belle again pleased the audience by her singing. This company we can recommend to the public as well as the foreign de. Their deportment while in our midst has been of the best, both on and off the stage.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, D.C., May 5th, '99. Mr. McKinley doesn't like portions of the report of the Military Court of Inquiry, and it is said that the Court, which adjourned a week ago, will be required to revise the objectionable parts of the report before it is approved by Mr. McKinley and made public.

It seems that in their criticisms of certain officers, the members of the court, doubtless unintentionally, trod upon Mr. McKinley's toes. Song of Boss Hanna's tricks in the Speakership muddle are leaking out. One of them was his hint that the Speaker ought to be a western man. It was thought strange at the time that he should have dropped that hint. But when it is known that several days after-ward he had a private conference in New York, with Representative Sherman, his strangeness disappears. It was a bluff to bring Sherman to his knees, and obtain pledges from him. Whether it succeeded is not certain, but there are reasons for believing that it did, and that Sherman, who was known as "Czar Reed's" candidate, will be taken up by Hanna, the administration and the trusts, and elected Speaker. Friends of Hopkins of Illinois, and Henderson of Iowa, both of whom had been led to expect administration support are getting very suspicious. They will not talk for publication now, but if the Hanna-McKinley support is given to Sherman they will not be enjoyed either by the Hanna or Mr. McKinley, and they may not continue their animosity to talk. The republican majority in the next House will not be large and a few vigorous kickers can make lots of trouble for those in charge of the administration program.

Senator Pettigrew, who has been traveling extensively since Congress adjourned, is now in Washington. He said of his observation of the political situation, "Bryan will be nominated by acclamation. His nomination cannot be prevented. I expect several weeks traveling through the South and talking with people in the small towns. In every state, and especially in Louisiana and Texas, I found the sentiment for Bryan overwhelming. Members of the Board of Trade of New Orleans were not favorable to him, but not in the country districts Bryan's name was mentioned with the highest praise. In South Dakota and the northwest there is the same feeling. I believe, too, that half of the delegation from New York will be for Bryan. You know they elect delegates to Congressional districts in New York, and that will insure the expression of the sentiment of the people."

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