

DIVERSIFICATION VS. OVER-PRODUCTION.

Over-Production a Menace to the South.

The Southern Cotton Association will not ask the farmers of the South to reduce the cotton acreage for 1906 less than that planted in 1905. The association does not ask and insist with all the force at its command that the acreage planted in cotton throughout the belt in 1905 be not increased during the planting season of 1906. Let the watchword of every Southern farmer be "Diversification," and through that agency produce abundance of food supplies to maintain each farm. Permanent independence, thrift and prosperity can only be enjoyed by Southern cotton growers through the adoption and maintenance of a system which will make each farm self-sustaining. It is the only medium through which the present insidious credit system, which has so long held our people in bondage, can be effectively broken up and relegated to the past. It is the only medium through which the great masses of cotton producers can ever hope to control the sale of their cotton in the markets of the country and force consumers and buyers to pay them fair and just prices for the staple. Any system which forces the producer to market his crops rapidly in order to meet maturing obligations to pay for supplies that could be more cheaply raised at home will ever tend to make a slave of the grower, minimizing the rights of manhood which every Southern cotton raiser should enjoy to the fullest extent.

maintain its price at such figures as will always give to the producer a profit on its production. Build warehouses with your surplus money, and secure adequate storage facilities for the proper handling of your cotton in the markets of the country. Let us reach out and broaden the markets and uses for American cotton. Let us bring about direct trade between the producers and the spinners of the world and in safeguarding our magnificent and valuable staple from the greed of speculative interests enjoy the blessings of its monopoly and through co-operation rapidly develop our beloved Southland into the richest and most prosperous section of the entire Union. Pause, reflect and make no fatal mistake in entering upon the new crop year for 1906. The sun of peace and plenty is shining on the loyal and patriotic heads of Southern planters today. Providence has blessed our country. The clouds may thicken and darken our horizon in the spring if we grow heedless of our duty. The Southern Cotton Association sounds its note of warning and issues its appeal to the people.

Some Thoughts of Olden Times.

Seeing Mrs. J. J. Brantley's account of the kind of a homespun dress she wore to the "Secession ball" at the old Kinard's hotel in Newberry in 1861 recalls to memory some homespun dresses I saw a couple of young ladies wearing one day as I was going into the town of Newberry with my father. We had just crossed the bridge over the railroad going towards the corner at Mathias Barro's residence when we noticed the two young ladies in front of us. My father remarked, "There are two beautifully dressed girls. Do you know them?" I could not tell from their backs who they were, but as soon as we passed I knew them to be daughters of William Langford. My father was so impressed with the dresses he told my mother, and she forthwith sent to Mrs. Langford for a scrap of the cloth, so she could see the dye and weave of the goods; and it was not long before she had some of the same dye and check, and it was the rage among the girls in our neighborhood for awhile. Dresses worn out those days, but never went out of style. Those two young ladies are living today; one is Malinda Higgins the other is Mrs. E. P. Matthews. As I remember, Mrs. Brantley said of her dress that it was cream and blue checks. I believe these were cream and blue checks also. The cream dye was obtained from crab-apple bark, I think, and coppers—I will not be certain of this dye. In those days the women used to make a gray cloth they called "mix." The warp was all cotton, the filling half wool and half cotton—which gave it the proportion of three-fourths cotton and one-fourth wool. Out of this goods they made a coat or cloak for winter wear. They resembled the raincoats of today in style; the tails almost covered the whole skirt of their dresses.

The Chinese Mother.

The Chinese mother is very fond of her children. She is happy in their company and spends much time caring for them. In a Chinese family the birth of a child is a greater event than with other Orientals. Long before the child is born the mother performs rites and ceremonies to propitiate the gods that her child may be a boy. After birth the little fellow is wrapped in old rags, and in winter is sometimes put in a bag of sand sewed close around its neck to keep the little one warm. Great rejoicing follows the birth if the child is a boy; otherwise there is an air of chastened disappointment. But good Chinese parents make the best of their little lasses, becoming very fond and even proud of them. I have known more than one Chinese father to exhibit his toddling wee girl for approval, though always with the customary national verbal depreciation of what belongs to one. Indeed, this evidence of excessive courtesy may be found everywhere in this strange land. It is good form to vilify what is mine and laud what is thine. "My good-for-nothing family are all still troubling the earth with their presence. How is your honorable family?" The fact that Chinese custom has become moulded into certain set forms has misled many travelers. It is, for instance, a generally accepted custom to this country that a gentleman shall remove his hat when he meets a lady with whom he is acquainted, but a Chinese visitor would fall into error if he did so, it being assumed that this implied that women, therefore, reduced men to social servitude. So in China a woman waits on her husband while he is eating, because it has been the custom from time immemorial. In the same way if they were traveling he would walk beside the cart while she rode.

is shaved. A great feast is prepared and celebrated, the child is now receiving his "milk-name." When he enters school this name is changed, as it is once more when he receives his degree. Put Him in the Hall of Fame. William Elliott, of Kokomo, Indiana, is entitled to a place in the Hall of Fame. He is the only man belonging to his class, and we have no doubt that the people of the country would be delighted to contribute to a fund for the purpose of building a monument to him that would perpetuate his name to the remotest generation. Mr. Elliott was a soldier in the Union army. He fought all through the war. He did not shrink any of his duties, and he is as true to himself and to his country now as he was in the times which tried every patriot's soul. Mr. Elliott has just been notified that there is an accumulated pension of \$15,000 awaiting his acceptance, and according to a special despatch from Kokomo, to the Chicago Record-Herald he has done one of the bravest and manliest deeds any soldier that wore the blue ever did. He will not accept the money, and he puts his case in the following splendid words: "I was a soldier all through the war, but I merely did my plain duty, nothing more, and am not entitled to a premium for that. Christ would refuse to accept money for the performance of His duty, and I will not take it." So far as we know Mr. Elliott stands by himself among all the hosts who fought for the preservation of the Union. What the authorities will do with this accumulated pension we do not know, but possibly they might be able to divide it among the millionaires who have declared their intention to accept the bounty of the Government in order that their records as soldiers of the United States might be perfected. All honor to William Elliott! His example ought to be an inspiration to the grafters who have been robbing the Government under the plea that they fought for its preservation forty years ago and are now entitled to their reward. —News and Courier.

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Tommy's Acts of Kindness.

Gov. Folk, of Missouri, was talking about reform. "We all believe in it," he said, "but we want to see it brought about at other folk's expense. We are like to see, a certain Kansas City boy. "This boy's mother said to him on her return from a long day's shopping in the Thanksgiving season: "Now, I hope my little Tommy has taken a heart mamma's talk of last night about charity and unselfishness. Since he has had so much trouble of his own I hope he has thought of other people's troubles all day long. Since he has many causes for thanksgiving himself, he has tried to give some for thanksgiving to others. What is Tommy's report for the day? How many acts of kindness has he done? How much work has he lightened? How many hearts has my Tommy made grateful and glad? "In this rather merry way spoke the good young mother. And her Tommy replied: "I've done a whole lot of good, ma. I gave my new hat to a bigger woman, and I gave the cook's mason to a little girl in basket rattle what I seen on the street, and I gave a poor lame street-seller his evening suit—the open front one that he hardly ever wears." —Kansas City Journal.

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