

Free India

THE MISSISSIPPI CREOLE.

TERMS, \$5

"SOME THINGS CAN BE DONE AS WELL AS OTHERS."—Sam Patch.

In advance.

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From the Boston Atlas
How long may the South expect to find an open market for its cotton in England.

It requires only the most ordinary sagacity and the smallest possible attention to the passing events in Great Britain to be able to say, no longer than England is able to raise sufficient cotton for her own consumption in her own possessions!—When that time shall arrive, when the hundred thousand bales of Indian cotton, now imported into England, shall have become ten times as large, then, and that period is not a remote one, it will need even a prohibitory duty to drive American cotton, by a competition unobvious to its producer, from the English market. The cheapness of its rival will of itself be sufficient. American cotton cannot be raised, and afford a profit, as low as the Indian. But even granting that it can, how slight a duty on American cotton will be required to place Indian cotton far beyond the possibility of competition. We now come to the capacity of the British possessions in India.

That cotton can be raised in India, no one, of course, will deny. That it can be raised throughout India, is also shown on all accounts. The amount therefore, which India is capable of producing will depend upon the extent of its territory, the nature of its soil and the facilities for its cultivation. It appears, therefore, in reference to the first and most essential point, that the extent of her territory in British India, capable of raising cotton, is greater than that of the whole United States; not merely greater than the territory of the cotton growing States and territories, but larger than the whole tract of land included between the line and Louisiana, Arkansas and the Atlantic.

The territory of the British East India Company covers an area of one million one hundred and thirty thousand square miles, and contains a population of ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY MILLIONS!—The soil of this immense tract of land is, of course, various, but all is more or less adapted to the growth of cotton, and its average degree of richness is fully equal to that of the soil of the Southern States. In many parts the soil, in large tracts, "is so excellent as to consist of black vegetable mould to the depth of six feet! In Bengal, the Gangetic annually overflows the country to the extent of more than a hundred miles in width, which inundation greatly fertilizes the land, and the periodical rains and the intense heat produce an extraordinary luxuriance of vegetation." The soil of Bengal is the largest of the British Presidencies, and is the one where the Government are, at this moment, making the utmost exertions to encourage, and well as improve, the growth of cotton, and where nearly all their efforts have been directed. Of this Presidency, as is well known, Calcutta is the capital. Its territory is upwards of three hundred thousand square miles, equal to the area which comprises the States of Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi. It contains a population of no less than TWENTY MILLIONS of souls! Of its capacity for raising cotton, let us look for the testimony of those who are conversant with their own experience, upon this subject. Montgomery Martin says:—Cotton every where abounds, but sufficient care has not been bestowed upon

the growth, so as to render it, as in America, a triennial, instead of an annual; or in the picking and cleaning of it for export. Decca cotton is unequalled; and the 'sea Island cotton,' (from Saugur Island, near Calcutta,) promises to be a valuable article of export."

The possibility of raising the "sea island" cotton in India, has ever been treated with ridicule and incredulity by our planters interested in cotton. That they are no longer justified in the belief that in this country only this superior cotton can be raised, will appear from the following, in the Madras United Service Gazette, of the 25th of June:

"At the Agricultural meeting at Calcutta in May last, some of the soil of the island of Cheduba was stated to have undergone analysis, and was found to correspond with that on which the sea island of Georgia is produced. A report on the subject of this important discovery has been made to the Indian government and a cask of Sea Island cotton seed had been accordingly shipped for Cheduba. It has long been a dogma among cotton cultivators that this description of soil, so favorable to the cultivation of cotton, was peculiar to America, thus yielding to that country a vast monopoly in the produce of a superior cotton; but we have at last discovered a Sea Island of our own, and will, doubtless, turn it to a profitable account."

Another writer on India, Royle, says:—"The best of cotton is produced from the coast of Coromandel." Both of the other British Presidencies also Madras and Bombay, are admirably qualified in every respect for the raising of cotton.—Another writer says: The Presidencies of Madras and Bombay likewise contain land capable of growing cotton to an illimitable extent."

The Presidency of Madras contains 142,000 square miles, or an area larger in extent than that of the three States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, and with a population of nearly fourteen millions. The Presidency of Bombay is about as large as Virginia, with a population of six millions.

These are the three great Presidencies of British India, and to them we are to look principally for the realization of the expectations of the English growers of East India cotton; but they are not the only portions of East India where cotton can be and will be raised. Martin says: "The Indian government have, of late years, made several attempts for the extensive introduction of the cotton plant into Guzerat near the Persian Gulf which seems well adapted for the culture."

"Cotton," says another writer, "is as fine in Rajahpota, as any where in India." In another part of the publication, which is of this year's date, he says, "another part of the same province (Mewar) produces all kinds of grain, cotton, sugar," &c. In another paper we will continue our quotations from different writers to prove that still other parts of India can grow cotton in abundance. But we have shown enough for our present purpose. For we have seen that three great Presidencies, as well as the larger vassal states, are abundantly able to raise cotton in immense quantities. With an area of 806,400 square miles, or as large as that of the whole of the United States, excepting only New England and the small States of New Jersey and Delaware, and with a population of one hundred and eight millions,—we have seen that their soil is equal, if not superior, to that of the Southern States, and with twenty times their population. It is at least fair to presume that they can raise cotton in proportionately large quantities when their attention is fully directed to its growth. Now it appears from the agricultural statistics of the sixth census of 1840, that the six principle cotton growing States—South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee, with an area of 285,000 square miles, grow, in one year, 2,573,379 bales of cotton. Allowing that portion of East India, alone, of which we have spoken, to be able to grow cotton in the same proportion as the cotton growing States, namely, about nine bales on the average to the square mile, and the five provinces alone, to make no mention for the present of the others, are capable of raising

the enormous amount of seven millions two hundred and forty eight thousand, six hundred bales of cotton! Or more than triple all that is consumed in Great Britain.

If we take our estimate from the proportionate supply from the State of Mississippi, the soil of which State that of India is described as most exactly resembling, the quantity which these provinces can easily raise will be much larger. The average growth of cotton to the square mile in Mississippi, is fifteen bales. The same ratio in three Indian provinces will give us a growth, in one year, of twelve million eighty-one thousand bales of cotton! Five times the quantity used by Great Britain. So much for the capacity of India to raise cotton.

From the Boston Atlas.
How long may the South expect to find an open market for its cotton in England.

We recently referred to the value and amount of the exported cotton of this country. We showed that nearly a half of the actual value of all our exports of American produce was comprised in the cotton exported to British possessions. We have now to show that Great Britain has both the will and the power to exclude, in the course of a few years, American cotton entirely from her market. Of the desire of England to do this, we need hardly speak; for it has been too manifest for several years past to require us to point it out more clearly. It is only necessary to see the constant, unremitting and determined efforts of the East India Government to raise cotton that shall compete in quality, quantity and cheapness with that of this country, and the unanimity of feeling throughout England in hoping soon to receive ample supplies from India, to render England independent of America for supplies of cotton. We have only to read the journals of England, the more liberal as well as the ultra-radical and the ultra-tory, especially where we find in them accounts of public meetings on the subject, to be convinced this feeling pervades the country, and is participated in by all classes and by members of all the political parties. The abolitionists, who, in England, are composed of the best portions of society, are, as one man, opposed to receiving, any longer than is absolutely necessary, any more cotton that is raised by slave labor. And all accounts of their meetings agree in showing an impatience, almost uncontrollable, for that period when the success of East India cotton shall be such as to warrant the exclusion of American. It is but a short time since we read an account of a public meeting in London of the Abolitionists, where it was strongly urged by an American speaker, that England had but to lay a duty on American cotton to put an end to slavery in America. The idea was supported by the speakers that followed, and the consideration of the meeting was more occupied with the chance of obtaining supplies of cotton from India than with the subject directly before it.

But it is not only the case with the Abolitionists, as such, that this feeling exists. It pervades every where. It is heard in their halls of Parliament, on the hustings, in newspapers and journals of every class, and is in fact a matter of national feeling. "A tax on American Cotton, Protection to that of our own Possessions," is now the watchword throughout England, and any one is worse than blind to the reality who can read the English journals without seeing this.

But we believe few, if any, will deny the existence of this disposition, especially in the face of the great exertions of the East India government to encourage the growth of cotton, especially cotton of such a quality as shall compete with that of America. To do so would be to refuse credit to facts that are daily staring us in the face. But while none can deny that exertions are making to enable England to do without American cotton, there are many of our southern friends who will not permit themselves to believe that they will prove successful. They laugh at the idea of raising cotton in East India to rival theirs, as if it were an utter impossibility, and instead of examining into the matter and ascertaining the facts, which would show to them

their danger to be not so distant and imaginary as they appear to believe, they shut their eyes to the future, as if, by doing so, they can escape it. They cling, with the pertinacity of drowning men, to every straw that seems to warrant the possibility of the failures of the East India cotton scheme. The return of one or two of the Americans who are attempting it, is seized upon and trumpeted throughout the Southern States, as if it necessarily followed the whole scheme would be abandoned. What folly!—what fatal blindness! The Government anticipated obstacles in the way of their undertaking, but instead of meeting any to discourage them, they have met with much fewer than they anticipated and are now pressing through their enterprise in a manner which cannot fail to ensure its speedy success.

If instead of taking it for granted that England can never be able to do without our cotton, and believing that the scheme of obtaining from India all she wanted, would prove a failure, the Southern politicians had seriously set themselves about the inquiry shall we, or shall we not, be able to compete with India in the production of cotton? They would be astonished at the result of their inquiry! How can the South expect to compete, with their slave labor, even taking it at the very lowest estimate of cost to the owners, with the free labor of India at the rate of only twelve cents a day? Nay, more; with the most abundant supply of labor and any quantity of land for the purpose; and with a government and wealthy company not only ready to second them, but doing all in their power to urge them up—having but a single impediment in the way—the greater distance of transportation. The only things which at this very moment prevent the East India cotton from driving the American cotton out of the market, "is the insufficient supply of the former, and its inferiority to the latter. The first obstacle will exist no longer than the removal of the other. That as good East India cotton as any in America can be raised in India, has already been ascertained, as we shall show hereafter. That it can be raised to illimitable extent can be seen by a glance at the map of India, to be confirmed by reading the accounts of the soil. That it will drive out the American cotton from the market, even without a duty on the latter, is inevitable, whenever its quality shall be equal to good, as it can be afforded at a rate which will not enable our planters to raise cotton. Witness the decrease of the imports into Liverpool, of Brazilian cotton. East India cotton has supplanted that. Why will it not do the same to our cotton, when it is equally good?

We will show, in our next, the capacity of India to raise any amount of cotton, and the exertions that have been made to render it as good in quality as the American.

From the National Intelligencer.
British Attempts to Grow Cotton.

The following extracts from some of the best foreign papers may be depended on as furnishing facts which are of great importance to this country. The extensive preparations making by England for supplying herself with her own cotton and excluding that of foreign growth, and the success which has attended them have not till lately excited public attention. We now see them all alive to the protection of their own interests, the growing of cotton is becoming a subject of investigation in other countries. It would be well for the people of this country if they too would open their eyes to this subject, and look forward to the prospect that is now presented to them. With cotton at 10 cents a pound, the manufacture barely holding its own and not increasing in Europe, with Texas rising rapidly into importance with its rival production, and the South American States, the West India islands, Egypt and other countries increasing theirs, where are our planters to look for higher prices and a ready market? Instead of being jealous of our own manufactures which already take 286,000 bales, we think it would show more prudence to cherish them as our best resource for the future.

From the Bombay Times, June 23, 1841.
The Production of Cotton in India.

On examining into the supplies of cotton brought to this market during the twelve months ending the 31st of May, we find that the result is well calculated to astonish those who have not been marking the progressive increase of this product, but have been dwelling with fancied security on the recollections of what used to constitute a large supply for us, viz, 200,000 bales. It appears, then that from the first of June, 1840, to the first of June, 1841, the imports of cotton into Bombay have amounted to 174,212,755 pounds; or on the previous average, of 34 cwt. to the bale, 478,606 bales—little short of half a million of screwed bales! This is a larger quantity than America produced up to the year 1826, and more than was consumed in England during the same year. In 1825, the entire product of the United States amounted to only 169,000,000 pounds, though twelve years after it had reached 444,214,337 pounds—Vide McC's Dict. As a further encouragement to the cultivators, we may state that the consumption of East India cotton in Great Britain has increased in a greater ratio than of any quality whatever. In 1816, at which period the average of American Upland was 18½, and Sarat at 13½, all the consumption of American was 4,036 bales, and East Indian 207 bales per week. In 1833, when the average price of Upland was 7½, and Sarat at 5½, the consumption of American was 15,644 bales, and East Indian 2,142 bales per week, the increase in 23 years, of the last mentioned, being in the ratio of 1 to 18. In the same period the consumption of Egyptian, Brazil, and West India varieties has not doubled.

From the London Lit. Gaz.—Sept. 11, 1841.
Indian Productions and Manufactures.

Connected with this subject, we rejoice to see that measures are being successfully taken to form a national intercommunication of valuable products and manufactures between England and her mighty Eastern empire. This has been long and most strangely neglected; and it would have been well worth while to establish a board of commission, with Government influence and authority, to direct and superintend so important a concern. As it is, the stimulus appears to have been given by the committee on trade, &c., emanating from the Royal Asiatic Society, whose proceeding has had a most beneficial effect both at home and in India. We now learn that experiments on the cultivation of cotton are promising the greatest results; and that other branches of industry are all being improved and promoted by European skill and encouragement. The Himalayan line has been acclimated and found extensively useful.

From the Journal des Debats.

It is with the 200,000 tons of cotton which England purchases annually in Mobile and New Orleans that she produces 480,000,000 francs of cotton goods which she spreads over all parts of the world. It is by cheapness of production that England is able to carry on so extensive a trade; for her to run the risk by making reprisals of being obliged to pay for this cotton at a dearer rate would be attacking her own interest. This she will not do. But what she will do will be to increase in the East Indies as in the Antilles the growth of cotton, and thus free herself from the monopoly of the growers of the United States. This will be a skillful system of reprisals, and one which we, who wish to give importance to our colonies, would do well to imitate; leaving open however, the question as to whether the interests of the mercantile shipping may not require more immediate and direct measures. As these interests have been vigorously defended by the representative of France at Washington, we may have full confidence in the measures which the Minister of Commerce may propose on this subject.

From the London Atlas—Oct. 2, 1841.
Cotton in India.

From the period of Capt. Bayley's mission to America, for the purpose of making himself acquainted with the system adopted in that country in the cultivation of cotton, to the transportation of that successful method to our Indian possessions, we have watched with deep interest, and from time to time recorded, the

progress of the speculation. On Captain Bayley's arrival from his interesting and ably-accomplished tour of investigation, we devoted, as our readers may perhaps remember, considerable space in this department of the Atlas, to the explanation of the system in question, and of the advantages contemplated by its adoption. That system is, we are glad to learn by the papers of the last overland mail, meeting with the entire approbation of the Indian Government, and there is every prospect of the anticipated benefits arising thereby being eventually realized. The Madras United Service Gazette of the 23rd June states that Government has ordered the transfer of the American cotton planters, sent to organize their plans at that presidency, from Tinnevely to Coimbatore, which country is better suited to the project. The local authorities, it appears, with full confidence of its ultimate success, were exerting themselves zealously in the promotion of the scheme. Captain Bayley and Mr. Fitch, who are stated to be most efficient coadjutors in the cause, were busily engaged in carrying out the plans of the Government at Madras presidency, whilst those on the Bengal side (with Capt. Bayley as superintendent) are equally energetic in the prosecution of their plans.

From the Bombay branch we have not recent tidings on the subject. The American cotton seed and implements of husbandry sent from England had reached Errode, and great preparations were making in various parts of the country in bringing this extensive enterprise into immediate operation.

At the Agricultural meeting of Calcutta, in May last, some of the soil of the island of Cheduba was stated to have undergone analysis, and was found to correspond exactly with that on which the Sea Island cotton of Georgia is produced. A report on the subject of this important discovery had been made to the Indian Government, and a cask of Sea Island cotton seed has been accordingly shipped to Cheduba.

It has long been a dogma, among the cotton cultivators, that the description of soil so favorable to the cultivation of cotton was peculiar to America, thus yielding to that country a vast monopoly in the production of a superior cotton; but we have at last discovered a Sea Island of our own, and will doubtless turn it to profitable account. We may here mention that the Bengal section of the American planters, in passing through Allahabad, were shown specimens of Indian cotton, which they had deliriously, if not quite, as good as they commonly met with in America.

By reference to the report of the committee of Parliament on East India produce, published last year, the design may be seen more in detail by the message of the Governor General. The feeling that exists in England against slavery pervades every class of people. The doctrines of abolition are not confined there to a section, or to comparatively a few enthusiastic or designing persons, as in this country; practical men and politicians, churchmen and dissenters, nobility and gentry, all cherish the same feelings; and if their zeal should appear great, we may account for it in part perhaps by the jealousy which exists among certain classes against Republican institutions and rivals in trade.

From the Philadelphia North American.

British Power in Asia.

The dominions of Great Britain in Asia extend from the bay of Bengal to the Indies, on the borders of Persia, embracing a population of some one hundred and forty millions. The natives, though inferior in physical force to the Russians, are quite as far advanced in the arts of civilized life. And yet this immense mass is kept in colonial servitude by the presence of a few regiments of soldiers and a few armed ships. The power that maintains this force is enabled through it to dictate substantially the laws which regulate trade. The result is, as might be expected, the products and manufactures of other countries are subjected to heavy discriminating duties, while those of Great Britain flow in without restriction.

To these immense possessions, and