

**His Mother Used to Pick Seed from the Lint—The Advent of the Cotton Gin, the Spinning Jenny and the Power Loom—A Revolution in Commerce and Manufactures.**

the long staple cotton. It was involved in international law suits and his gin, which was for only the short staple cotton, was not in general use for many years after it was "invented." My father put up the first gin in Gwinnett County in 1828, and seed cotton was raised to it. Previous to the use of the gin it was considered a fair day's work to seed enough to make a pound of lint. But the gin with two attendants picked 400 pounds in a day. At that time the old-fashioned spinning wheel was in general use. A day's work for a spinner was six cuts—a cut being 140 rounds on the reel, but the first spinning jenny with one attendant did eighty times as much and did it better. Later on it did 2,000 times as much. The power loom was in similar proportion, hence it suddenly came about that ten men could do the work of ten thousand. No wonder that Hargraves and Arkwright were driven from their homes by the spinners and spinsters. Excuse me, but the spinster is the feminine for spinner and used to mean a marriageable girl who had made herself eligible and fitten to be married by spinning and weaving enough cloth for her own trousers, and sheets and coverlets, and the table cloth and handkerchiefs for the table. This was the dowry she brought her husband. But these inventors went to Nottingham and put up their mills and made a monopoly of the business. They and their associates grew rich so fast that they determined to exclude all mankind from acquiring the knowledge of their invention. The knowers were kept locked and the operatives sworn to secrecy. New England tried in vain to buy the right and could not compete with English yarns.

to compete.  
But cotton is still king—king in the Southern fields and in the factories and in the carrying trade of the ocean and in Liverpool and other great markets of the world. Whether we make large crops or small ones, it is still the greatest factor in the world's comfort and prosperity. Long live the king!  
BILL ARP.

When he had got about this far a rival powder merchant in the meeting, who had been boiling over with indignation at the amount of advertising the opposition powder was getting, 'umped up and cried out: 'Brethren, I hope you'll not believe a single word of this fellow's sayings about that powder. I've been down the mine seen it for myself, and I pledge you my word that the grains is bigger' than the lumps in a coal pile, and any of you, brethren, ef you was in your future state, could put a bar' in the way of any of these big grains and medd' quar' through the sulphurous flames, surroundin' you without the least danger of an explosion.'<sup>19</sup>

**All Previous Records are Broken--  
Destruction, Suffering and Death  
in the Flooded Districts--Historic  
Spots in Danger of Being Swept  
Away.**

JACKSON, March 30.—From the great Yazoo delta comes a wail of distress and the cry of "the levees have broken" is heard throughout our valley of the Nile. Three fresh breaks have been reported today and through these immense volumes of water are carrying destruction to thousands of happy homes and devastating as fertile a territory as is to be found on the globe. So far no loss of life except to domestic animals has been reported, but it may be by morning, as the great mounds of earth which protect the flourishing cities of Greenville, Roseburg, Batesville, Arka, Arka's Point, Rolling Fork and others are being soaked & mushy and liable to give way at any moment.

system and old farmers declare it does not cut that. Life and business were more certain than they are now. There was no doing anything but an overflow and prepared for it. Though the Federal government has been most liberal in appropriations to the levees, the planters of the delta have spent millions more in perfecting the present levee system except for one or two failures. In the great delta pays a tax of \$1, which creates a large sum annually for levee purposes. There are doubtless many who after this will be convinced that this \$1 per acre might have been more profitably expended. Low water even at this time is a serious matter. The morning tide is probable several others breaks will have occurred. The water

—Spain is in desperate straits over her two rebellious children—Cuba and the Philippines—says The Chicago Inter Ocean. Cuba has cost her \$200,000,000 these last two years. Spain's monthly war expenditures are \$16,000,000. Her people are patriots, but strapped, and London and Paris are not loathing on what Spain was, but on what Spain is. Thirty relief expeditions have reached the insurgents, and the end is not yet.

### Henry Watterson Talks With Interest About the Slayer of Lincoln—He Has No Doubt that Booth Was Killed.

"This is no place for me," exclaimed Surratt.

"He took the train and it was not long before he was in Canada. He crossed the ocean as soon as he could catch a vessel, and went to Rome where he joined the Papal Zouaves. He destroyed his identity about as completely as it could be destroyed. He could not have chosen a shrewder way of hiding from the government. And

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do so, she goes out for a drive instead of remaining indoors. To the door-keeper is entrusted the duty of informing the disappointed ones that Mrs. McKinley's health rendered it

—The military academy at West Point has sixty-one professors and 296 students, and the naval academy at Annapolis has sixty-seven professors and 312 students.