In the Tobacco Lands

A Visit to the World's Biggest Loose Tobacco Market.

Tobacco Auctions and How They Are Managed—Snuff Factories and Snuff Dippers—How Plug Tobacco and Cigarettes Are Made—The Tobacco Plantation of the United States—How the Weed is Grown and Prepared for the Market—Novelty Items for Those Who Worship Madame Nicotine.

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Special Correspondence of the NEWS.

DANVILLE, Virginia, Nov. 5th, 1896.

I AM on my way south to take a bird's-eye view of the industrial situation of the country. I propose to visit the chief centers of the United States and to give the facts as I find them. Notwithstanding the present hard times, we are said to be the wealthiest nation on the globe. I want to show where a great part of our wealth comes from and how we get it. My first travels have been in the great tobacco belts of Virginia and North Carolina. This region is filled with tobacco plantations. You see the square log cabins, known as tobacco barns, on every farm, and the farmers are now bringing in their crops in wagons to the great auction markets here. The tobacco raised here is some of the best of the world, and buyers from the different countries of Europe are stationed here the year round. The Danville loose tobacco market is the biggest of the kind in the world, and there is no market like it under the sun.

OUR ENORMOUS TOBACCO CROP.

Before I describe it, let me give you some idea of what tobacco means to the United States. It is one of our great money crops, and it brings us millions of dollars in gold from Europe every year. It amounts at times to almost as much as the product of our gold mines. In 1895 it sold for more than $20,000,000, and in 1894 about $27,000,000. Of this last amount $15,000,000 was sold to Europe, Asia, Africa and South America, and the most of it was composed of tobacco leaves packed up for shipment almost as they came from the farmer. Our tobacco crop comes from nearly every state and territory of the Union, and it is of a dozen or more different kinds. Some is especially fitted for export, some for plug, some for fine cut, some for the different varieties of smoking, and some for snuff. I saw at Durham, North Carolina, yesterday a snuff factory, which makes large quantities of snuff for the small dippers of the south. The tobacco is ball rolled and mixed with other ingredients before it is ground into the titillating and toothsome product so largely in demand for rubbing with a reward stick against the teeth. It is packed in ox bladders, in balls ranging in size from that of your fist to that of your head, and sold by the ounce or pound. There is a similar tobacco made in Louisiana, about fifty miles north of New Orleans, known as the perique tobacco, which is as black as your hat and almost as strong as aqua fortis. This is the finest tobacco made, for it is cured in its own juices, while other tobaccos is mixed with all sorts of sweetening, and is sugared and salted and flavored to taste. The perique tobacco is sold chiefly in New Orleans. It is put up in twists wrapped round with cords, and is said to grow sweeter as it grows older. It is very expensive, and is the thing for those who are accustomed to use it. Smoking tobacco is grown almost everywhere, but there is a great difference in the quality and prices obtained. In the region where I am now writing, the finest of cigarette tobacco is produced, and hundreds of millions of the little white paper-wrapped death-destroyers come from the soil of Virginia and the two Carolinas. The tobacco is mild, light and yellow, and it has a high flavor.

HOW TOBACCO IS RAISED.

I had an idea until I came here that our tobacco was raised on big plantations, and I expected to find tobacco fields containing hundreds of acres. The fact is that the most of the crop comes from garden patches, and that the fields are small. The farmers estimate the size of their crop not by the acre, but by the hill. There are about 4,000 hills to the acre, and the man who has a half million hills of tobacco is a nabob. In the whole United States not much more than half a million acres are put in tobacco each year. The tobacco in most cases is but one of a number of crops raised on a farm. It is, however, like wheat in the north or cotton further south, the money crop, and the farmer depends upon it for his ready cash. It is a very expensive crop, and requires almost constant labor from planting in the early spring until about August or September, when it is ready for the market. I met at Durham, Colonel Walker, an old tobacco planter, and now the leading buyer for one of the biggest tobacco firms of the world, and asked him to tell me in simple language the story of tobacco, from the seed to the mouth of the consumer.

Said he: "Tobacco is a king among plants, and it requires royal treatment. The seed is no bigger than mustard seed, and the plant is so young too much seed rather than too little.

"I was down in Kentucky a few days ago, talking one long day with a farmer outside the tobacco districts about tobacco raising. He became interested and said: 'Well, I would like to raise a little tobacco, and I wish you would send me a pound of seed (or a ounce, I don't recollect which) and I would plant the whole crop in North Carolina. One ounce of tobacco seed contains 300,000 seeds, and a single plant will produce seed enough for ten acres of hills. The seeds are so small that they have to be mixed with ashes or dirt before planting, in order not to sow them too thick.'

RAISED IN HOT BEDS.

"How are they planted," said I, "with a drill?"

"No," replied the veteran tobacco raiser, "they are sown by hand in a plant bed or hot bed, just like cabbage plants, and when the time comes to transplant they are pulled out and transplanted in hills, like cabbages or tomatoes. The raising of the plant bed is but easy. The ground is covered with wood and turned so that the earth is roasted, and all of the insects and vegetable matter, seeds, etc., cooked out of it. It is manured heavily and after the seed is sown it is covered over with thin cloth, something like cheese cloth, to keep in the heat, and to keep out the insects. A plant bed twenty feet square will raise enough plants for ten acres tobacco hills."

EVEN WOMEN CHEW TOBACCO.

"After the plants are set out," Colonel Walker continued, "they have to be cultivated and watched. They are hilled up like potatoes, and the weeds are kept down. The plants grow to a height of three or four feet. The leaves branch out in all directions, and where each leaf joins the stalk suckers sprout out. These have to be pulled off again and again that all of the strength of the plant may go into the leaf, and for the same reason the top is cut off, and the foot the plant may not go to seed. Every plant has to be examined night and morning, to see that worms and insects are not eating it. And it is by no means the only thing that likes a mouthful of tobacco. There are cut worms, who attack the plants, flies and beetles who look at it, and grasshoppers and crickets are fond of it too. The worst enemy, however, is the horn worm, or tobacco worm. This comes in a night, and in one night or a few nights it will destroy the crop."

CURING THE WEED.

"How is the crop harvested?" I asked. "This is done when the leaves begin to turn yellow. Some farmers strip the leaves from the stalk and string them on sticks. Others cut off the stalks and string them on sticks, which are stuck in the ground. They are then carried to the tobacco barns and hung up to cure. These barns are closed houses. Each has a set of flues and pipes in it, so that it can be heated, and a thermometer is hung in the room to keep just at the right point till the tobacco is cured. This requires days and nights of firing, and the tobacco must be watched closely during this time. When the tobacco is cured all the moisture has been dried out of it. It has turned yellow, and it is ready to be prepared for the market. It has to be sprinkled to make the leaves soft, for they may be stripped from the stalk and sorted. Different parts of the plants go into different piles. The leaves nearest the ground are placed in one class, those next higher in another, and so on up to the top. Thus a half dozen or more leaves are tied together by wrapping another leaf about their stems, and in such bundles the whole crop is carried to the market or auctions, where it is sold and the farmer at once gets the cash for it. A thousand pounds to the acre would be a very good yield."

THE WORLD'S GREATEST TOBACCO MARKET.

I shall not soon forget the auction rooms at Danville, which I visited today with Colonel M. M. Neal, one of the oldest of the tobacco buyers. There are here eleven immense warehouses, each of which covers several acres, in which thousands and millions of pounds are sold at auction every day. The sales during the tobacco year which closed last month amounted to 40,000,000 pounds, which brought the whole crop is carried to the market or auctions, where it is sold and the farmer at once gets the cash for it. A thousand pounds to the acre would be a very good yield."

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HAVE A CHEW.

Leaving the warehouses, I next visited a large tobacco factory where the yellow leaf is converted into the smokeable plug. The covering of tobacco, so far from decreasing, seems to be increasing yearly, and millions of pounds of plug and fine cut are sold every year. Durham has to-day the biggest plug factory in the world, but plug tobacco of different grades is made in many places, and the names tell our three in number in the United States. The factory visited is doing a good business, and this seems to be the case with the tobacco establishments of North Carolina. Plug tobacco is as different in its qualities as coffee or tea. It is made in different grades and sold at different prices. The tobacco has to go through many processes before it is ready for chewing. First, it must be steamed, or stripped, that is, the stems must be pulled from the leaves. This is done by negroes in a room of a warm temperature, so that the possibility is that the perspiration of the employes aids in the force of the plugs. The next process, however, removes the evidence of any such odor. The tobacco chewer is not satisfied with the pure leaf. His chew must be sweetened and flavored to suit his taste. A thick liquid composed of licorice sugar, glycerine, salt and flavoring extracts is evenly sprayed on the tobacco, as it is carried through an immense copper cylinder. It is then taken to the curing room, where hundreds of colored men and women, boys and girls stand at tables and press the leaves into plug shape, and then cut them into bundles, a little larger than the size of the plugs which are to be made from them. Then the bundles are weighed as they are made, and are carried off to be squeezed by hydraulic pressure into the pongs of the consumer.

SMOKING TOBACCO.

It was at Durham, N. C., that I saw the process of making smoking tobacco. I went through rooms where the leaves are cut into the fine mixture for the pressboard tobacco used in the pipe. Parts of the factory were almost suffocating with their smell and dust, and I sneezed again and again as I made my way through them. The manufacturers which handle the tobacco have to do some of those of an immense flouring mill. The tobacco is raised by cutting the leaf fine to smoking, and it is fine to a low to great price as big as bapbacks, and containing hundreds of thousands of pounds. The tobacco machines cut the leaves into bits, and separate the stems and the dust from the snuff saved for smoking. After the tobacco is cut it is put through by squirting a mixture of wine smelled more like rum, and licorice flavoring extracts over it. This is done with a hose. I remember as I saw the pulling of a mouthful of the stuff, I saw a boy at a big stack of tobacco the story of the licorice and the pure pulling came back to me. Put had had his first taste of the pudding, and was smacking his lips over the rum dressing. "Good" said he, "what an elegant pudding rum would be if it was every bit dressing."

FOR THE CIGARETTE FIEND.

The same tobacco as that for the pipe is used in cigarettes. There are no cigarette factories at Richmond, Virginia, at Durham, North Carolina, and in many southern cities. Cigarettes are consumption was not so prominent and Mr. Beaton purchased a Voice of Warning in a Compendium. Upon leaving Mr. Beaton he was very particular to see me to call again as any man we might be in the neighborhood.

Now we wended our way to the Tabernacle, where we had the honor of eating dinner in the room in which the sacred plates were kept. Personally I was overjoyed at this privilege. The Hill Cumorah is about two and a half miles south of the house, and while standing in the holy spot a great joy filled our hearts as the thought that we were so highly blessed as to be privileged to stand in the spot where the Angel Moroni had, in the flesh, conversed with the stone box and reverently laid away the plates. The Urim and Thummim and breastplate and the sword of Laban; and also where his father Mormon had hid away the documents of the Nephites and Lamanites. I shall never forget the visit to this Holy spot.

UTONIANS AT ANN ARBOR.

How the Students Here are Enjoying the Boating Department—Meetings Held.

ANN ARBOR, Michigan,
October 31st, 1896.

To the Editor:

It is some time since there was an article, or letter, in the dear old News from Ann Arbor, at least that I have noticed, so a few lines from me may be received with interest by some of its many readers.

All of the Utonians here are well and hard at work with their different branches of study. The university started on October 1st, after which reported to the Utah students who remained here a rather long summer vacation, but now since the school is going, time seems to be slipping by very rapidly. It will not be long till the day will come when there will be no more student class for the class of '97, a class with which four right young men of Utah expect to graduate. Their names are as follows: Jed F. Woodley of Kanab, James L. Bowen of Pleasant Grove, Henry N. Hayes of Richfield, Oscar C. Bagley of Brigham. The first two will take out their diplomas in the literary department, and the latter two in the law department; of course they intend to return to Utah, where no doubt they will be leading men in the grand cause of education. Messrs Woodley, Bowen and Hayes have their families with them and they have not neglected the chance which they have given them here, in education. The children have been doing good work in school, and the ladies have attended some fine lectures in the university.

The three Utah young men here in the junior '98 class, are Arthur Dalley from Nephi, Ephraim Hanson from Epedan and Frank Wightman from Payson. Mr. Dalley's family is with him, the two boys (Hyde and Pinto) are doing fine work in the public schools. Mr. Dalley is taking up the study of Chemistry, and he seems to be doing well with. Mr. Hanson is in the law department and he too is doing quite well. Mr. Wightman is in the musical department making a specialty of vocal culture and the theory of music. He teachers being Professor Stanley, who is one of the few best tenor-singers in America, and the great baritone from Boston, Professor Lamson. It is suitable to say Mr. Wightman is pleasing his teachers.

The '99 class has five of our Utah young men in it, as follows: Stanley Partridge of Provo, Henry Lund of Ephraim, Mr. Perry with family, of Willard, Mr. Erickson of Eureka and Mr. Keeler of Salina. Mr. Partridge came last year and entered the literary department, his studies being in the line of piano and the theory of music. He is very faithful with his practice and is earnestly wrapt up in his studies, which means success. Messrs Lund, Perry, Keeler and Erickson are in the medicine law class. It takes but three years to finish the law department. These young men I did not know before I came to Michigan, and as I have seen but little of them since they came, I cannot say much of them. But judging from their looks and what I have seen of them, I think I will be safe in prophesying that they will maintain the good reputation which the Utah students have built up here.

Our Latter-day Saints meetings were started again on the 11th of October, with Brother Woolley as presiding Elder. We had a good meeting. All seemed glad to get together. At most, we will have one meeting each Sunday and a last meeting once a month. Most of all of the Saints here think these meetings a great privilege, and they are generally well attended by the few Saints which have assembled here.

Several of Utah folks went to Detroit and Toledo, to hear Bryan speak. They all came back with the opinion that his magnetism and speaking were wonderful.

We are having beautiful fall weather. The leaves are nearly all on the ground.

W.

Labors in Tennessee.

MOUNTAIN CITY, Johnson County,
October 26th, 1896.

To the Editor:

I left my home in Brigham city for the Southern States the 3rd day of April, 1895, and left Salt Lake City on the 9th of that month, arriving in Chattanooga on the 12th. I was assigned to the East Tennessee conference, and began my labors at Roane county, Elder A. W. Nebeker of Randolph county being my companion. On the 24th of May I had the honor of initiating one of the honest hearts of Monroe county to the fold of Christ. The work in this county seems to be very slow, but am pleased to say the Elders are energetic, earnest and all seem to be working with a determination to at least rid their garments of the blood of this people, and while not many are accepting of the call from on high, the prejudice that once existed is fast being expelled. When we see the patience of God toward the people, we can but exclaim, surely He is long suffering, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy and truth. It seems to me that the Elders are doing a good work, and that the people are pretty well warned of the judgments. Most of them have heard the Gospel call, but of course as a basis at least, they have become so filled with tradition in their minds at worship that it would take the demonstration of God to convince them of their error. Surely the world is becoming ripe in iniquity; but there are many kind and generous people in this land who are willing to accord to all equal privileges, and who are blessed with the spirit of charity, and would almost lay down their lives for their fellow men. Elder W. H. Carter of Centerville, is my present companion. We extend regards to all our friends, and would be pleased to hear from them. A. W. EASTON.

A Word from Wisconsin.

October 26th, 1896.

To the Editor:

Since coming into the missionary field it has been my experience to have many ups and downs, and we not get our meals as regular as we would like at times, and we get pretty tired occasionally; but when I look back, it gives me pleasure to review the scenes of the past, for there are a great many things to be learned, and this is the place to get once eyes opened and get an experience that never could be had by staying at home. We learn, for instance, that Utah is the place for God's people, and that it is a good place to send as young men in order to make us appreciate our home, our friends, and above all, our religion. To-day, when I write, I say, every year being called on a mission, (no rather let us say hearts that you would like to be called), at the same time neglecting no opportunity to study the scriptures.

I left home in March last, and attended our conference at Independence, Missouri, which was a glorious time not soon to be forgotten by the Elders. I was appointed to labor with Elder F. J. Lewis, of Sanpete county, Utah, in Jackson county, Wisconsin. There we worked very diligently in distributing tracts, but did not hold many meetings, for we could not get houses to preach in. We canvassed each county, from one end to Tomah, Monroe county, Wisconsin, where we have been laboring ever since last April but very little success seemingly; yet we make many friends where we can get a chance to talk to them and remove a great amount of prejudice, and we feel in hopes to impress this people we can convert them. For the interest of other Elders who may be called, I will state that we have to labor. We have waded 2,000 miles this summer, visited 1,177 families, distributed 1,700 tracts, and had 480 Gospel conversations. While it is difficult to get a chance to talk to the people, when we do, we make friends of them.

We receive the NEWS regularly, and greatly appreciate it; it is ever welcome, and it is a great blessing to us Elders. Your brother in the Gospel.

JOHN J. SIMMONS.

VISIT HOLY GROUND.

Pilgrimage of Elders Richards and Gill to the Hill Cumorah.

THE GOLDEN BOOK OF MORMON.

One of the First Printed Editions Inspected—$5,000 Paid for It by a Jack-r.

In a letter to Elder Elias Morris, Bishop of the Fillmore ward, Elder D. R. Gill, Sr., who is laboring in Pennsylvania, writes from Scranton of a visit which he paid to the Hill Cumorah in company with Elder S. W. Richards, President of the Eastern States mission. Describing his journey, Elder Gill says:

Elder S. W. Richards came up to Scranton and paid me a visit. He was on his way to Cuba, in the western part of the state of New York. Brother Richards told he would visit the Hill Cumorah during his journey, and he desired me to be company to him. The next morning at 9:15 Brother Richards, his wife and myself took the train and in the afternoon arrived at Cuba, where we were met by Elder M. H. McFarland. While at that place we held ten meetings, baptized two, blessed eleven children and ordained three to the Priesthood.

On October 1st, we started, Brother Richards, his wife, Brother M. H. Corley, and myself in a hack, accompanied myself in the party. We arrived at Canandaigua at 5:15 on October 2nd, took a good look at the hill and went on to Palmyra. Sister Richards called on Brother Rockwell and went to the First National bank and interviewed the president, Mr. Pliny T. Sexton. We had been told previously that Mr. Sexton was in possession of a copy of the first edition of the Book of Mormon that was ever printed out of the press. After we had refreshed ourselves at Mormon Elders inn Mr. Sexton received us very kindly and showed us the copy of the sacred work, which he carefully kept in a pasteboard box. He prized the work very much, because he gave $5,000 for it. Mr. Sexton does not own the copyright of the book as the filled sheets are as they came into the binder, bound that way as was the custom many years ago, unbound. Our conversation was very pleasant and Mr. Sexton purchased a Voice of Warning in a Compendium. Upon leaving Mr. Sexton he was very particular to see us to call again as any man we might be in the neighborhood.

Now we wended our way to the Tabernacle, where we had the honor of eating dinner in the room in which the sacred plates were kept. Personally I was overjoyed at this privilege. The Hill Cumorah is about two and a half miles south of the house, and while standing in the holy spot a great joy filled our hearts as the thought that we were so highly blessed as to be privileged to stand in the spot where the Angel Moroni had, in the flesh, conversed with the stone box and reverently laid away the plates. The Urim and Thummim and breastplate and the sword of Laban; and also where his father Mormon had hid away the documents of the Nephites and Lamanites. I shall never forget the visit to this Holy spot.

A Mormon Bonfire.—At the stake in a martyr a woman burned and dragged down to death by the mobs and society of Mormon haters, in Utah, a bonfire of Mormon Bibles was made. Hundreds of copies of the sacred writings were thrown into the fire to burn. It was a sacrilegious act, but it was better to be burned. Her spirit could be nowhere worse.

Many women suffer in silence because they think their delicate ailments are too unspeakable to be spoken of to physicians—inevitably leading to premature decay and become there dread the daily anguish and pain. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the only medicine for women, sold by druggists, prepared by a physician of long experience in treating female diseases, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction in all cases, or money is returned. It cures the most obstinate and long-standing cases of leucorrhœa, excessive flowing, painful periods, weakness, nervous prostration, female "weakness" and kindred ailments. It promotes a healthy, vigorous condition of the whole system, and is a most invigorating tonic and powerful restorative. It is the only medicine for women sold by druggists under a positive guarantee, from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or the money paid for it will be returned. Nothing can be more fair than this. Dr. Pierce's Pellets regulate the liver, stomach and bowels. Sugar-coated, little pellets. Druggists sell none else.

Mrs. Sarah E. Sykes of Denton, Dent Co., Mo., writes: "I was so weak I could not do my housework comfortably. I was prescribed by a physician, but was not benefited. I then wrote to you and received your medicines, and after using two bottles of 'Favorite Prescription' and one vial of 'Pellets' I felt like a new woman. I recommend them to all my friends."

Dr. Pierce's Pellets are the smallest, easiest to take, and most effectual laxative, cathartic and aperient. They are unsurpassed for biliousness, constipation, sick headache, and all derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels. They are sugar-coated, purely vegetable, and perfectly harmless in their action. Sold by druggists.

Down Go the Wires

before the gales. And under the force of shocks and strains down go the human nerves—tangled, torn and broken. This is nervous prostration. The man is no more or a bunch of nerves. It has Napoleon's left battalion, Lutzen and the Empire. Professional and business men are crippled by it. They see loss in the way, the simplest affairs scares them. The gentle breezes sting up the wires, and

Vino-Kolafra

the great African tonic, does the same for the nerves. It strengthens them at their centre—the brain. The heart is every ganglion powerful and regulated, the muscles respond to the will, fear and dread vanish, and the sufferer is ready to grapple with anything. No alcohol is needed. Use Vino-Kolafra only. No reaction, no bad after-effect. Result natural, real, wholesome.

Brunswick Pharmacal Co.,
26 William Street, New York.

CORRECT TREATMENT.

HOW DR. SHORES' WONDERFUL TREATMENT CURES.

It Reaches, Soothes and Heals Every Part of the Mucous Membrane, Curing All Forms of Catarrh and Chronic Disease.

Dr. Shores Treats and Cures: Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, Weak and Sore Eyes, Hay Fever, Deafness, Neuralgia, Insomnia, Heart Disease, Dyspepsia, Rheumatism, Malaria, Chronic Dysentery, Kidney Diseases, Nervous Diseases, Blood Diseases, Skin Diseases, Female Diseases, Hemorrhoids.

It makes no difference to Doctor Shores whether you have been treated by others or not, nor how many years you have suffered, if there is life in you it can be made healthy. Doctor Shores does not claim to be a miracle worker, but he does claim to be a specialist, and he does claim that he can cure more cases of catarrh than any other man living, because he has a remedy that is a specific for catarrh, and he knows it. He does not claim that he can make a deaf person hear, but he does claim that he can make many deaf persons hear who have been made deaf by catarrh, and he can do more than any other man living to cure deafness. He does not claim that he can make a blind person see, but he does claim that he can make many persons see who have been made blind by catarrh, and he can do more than any other man living to cure blindness. He does not claim that he can make a person who has been a victim of catarrh for years a healthy person in a few days, but he does claim that he can make such a person a healthy person in a few weeks, and he does claim that he can make such a person a healthy person at a less cost than any other man living. He does not claim that he can make a person who has been a victim of catarrh for years a healthy person for life, but he does claim that he can make such a person a healthy person for a long time, and that he can make such a person a healthy person for the remainder of their natural lifetime if they will follow his advice in regard to the home treatment.

For the cure of a common cold, to be effective, it should be taken in the first stage. If you have a cold in your head, you know that it will develop into catarrh if you do not get rid of it. If you have catarrh you know that it will develop into something worse if you do not get rid of it. If you have a cough you know that it will develop into something worse if you do not get rid of it. If you have a cough or cold