

Uncle Sam's Cotton.

This Year's Crop Will Be Six Billion Pounds—Enough to Clothe the World.

(Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—We raised enough cotton last year to make a suit of clothes for every man, woman and child upon earth. The crop is estimated at 12,000,000 bales, or, in other words, at 6,000,000,000 pounds. It will bring to the south \$420,000,000. More than \$200,000,000 worth of it will go across the water, and its value will return in hard gold dollars to Uncle Sam's pockets. The balance will be used in our own factories, north and south. We have now more than 1,500 cotton mills, which annually eat up about 2,000,000,000 pounds of raw cotton. They employ hundreds of thousands of hands and make a product which sells for more than \$300,000,000 per annum.

UNCLE SAM, MONEY MAKER.

Uncle Sam is now playing patriarch. He is taking more care of his children than ever before. Through the great government departments he is teaching them how to save and invest their money. A great work of this kind is being done by the agricultural department, and that especially in the line of cotton raising. I had a talk today with Dr. B. T. Galloway, who has spent years in the southern states studying cotton and the possibility of increasing that crop by better methods of cultivation. Dr. Galloway is the chief of the bureau of plant industry, and all his work is done for the government. Said he:

"The United States will always be the chief cotton country of the world. Our climate and soil are just fitted for cotton, and we have recently invented labor-saving machinery which will enable us to hold this industry against any nation on earth. As it is, the crop is steadily growing. Until the civil war we had never raised more than one and a half million bales. In 1898 we produced more than twice that amount, and our reports from the south now show that we shall have more than 12,000,000 bales this year. All the cotton raised by the world does not figure up more than 15,000,000 bales, so that three-fourths of all the cotton used by man is now raised here."

INCREASING OUR COTTON.

"What is the department doing along such lines?" I asked.

"It is giving the planters of the south the best seed, and it is showing them how to fertilize and cultivate. It is making experiments in seed selecting, and it is breeding better seed every year. We have experiment stations in all the cotton states, and we have already made an enormous difference in the amount of cotton grown. The chief trouble with southern farmers is that they are one-crop farmers. They work the soil with one crop until it is worn out, and then they start over again. In 1898 the average yield of cotton throughout the cotton belt is only 100 pounds to the acre. At the same time, in the same region, some farmers are getting as high as 500 to 600 pounds per acre, which at a value of 2 cents a

pound means an increased profit of from \$27 to \$54 per acre over their immediate neighbors. This comes from cultivating the land properly and sowing the right seed."

HOW ONE MAN MADE \$7,000.

"I have just received a letter from Terrell, Tex.," continued Dr. Galloway, "which shows what can be done by proper cultivation. The cotton product of that region has been steadily decreasing, owing to the lack of fertilization and the boll weevil. To show what might be done by better farming the department organized a demonstration farm at that place. It got one of the planters to set aside 20 acres for the purpose and to take charge of the work. The farmers and business men there became interested in the subject. They wanted the experiment tried and raised a purse of \$700 to insure the planter against any loss. The man planted and cultivated his 20 acres under the direction of the department, and as a result he not only made the full amount of \$700, which should have been his ordinary profit upon that much land, but also \$1,500 additional. In other words, out of that 20 acres he made \$1,500 more than was made out of any similar area in the cotton fields adjoining him cultivated in the ordinary way. He was so impressed with this that he planted 400 acres this year under the same management. He has kept a strict account of all his expenses, including labor, seed, picking, baling, stock feed and interest on the value of his farm, and the entire cost for the year has aggregated \$6,744. As a result he has made a crop of 245 bales of cotton, which has already brought him in \$3,745, giving him a clear net profit of \$7,000. He has 20 bales yet to pick, and this will give him \$1,000 more. At the same time he has cultivated in the old way have little more than paid their expenses."

"Where are you making experiments

A SHAKY THRONE.



King Leopold has never felt any too safe on his throne as ruler of Belgium, and he feels less secure with the outbreak in Russia. Should the Russian outbreak succeed, Belgium would probably follow quickly with a revolution.

New Discoveries by the Agricultural Department—How to Increase the Cotton Crop—Long Staple Lint for the Uplands—Where the Cotton Belt is—What John Bull and the Kaiser are Doing in Africa—Our Cotton Exports—The New Cotton-Picking Machine and the Cotton Factories of the South.



A NEW COTTON PICKING MACHINE WHICH DOES THE WORK OF SIXTEEN MEN.

of this kind, Dr. Galloway?"

"We are making them all over the south. Our plans involve the use of fertilizers and the selection of seed. They include the rotation of crops, the introduction of leguminous plants to add humus to the soil, and a general good farm management. What we want is to make the land richer and cause it to yield the largest possible returns."

"Does the character of the cotton seed make much difference?" I asked.

"Yes, that is one of the vital points in the industry. We are getting the best seed from all parts of the world, and are giving each locality that which grows best for that locality. We are marrying different kinds of cotton and producing hybrid children, which will grow well under conditions where neither of the parents did well before. We have crossed the Sea Island cotton with the ordinary upland cotton, and as a result, have added a great deal to the length of the staple. We have brought in cotton from Egypt and have married that to our native cotton with good results. We are also using the Egyptian cotton seed, and we expect to develop a cotton that will be just as good if not better than the Egyptian. We are now importing \$15,000,000 worth of Egyptian cotton a year. We want to make that ourselves. During the past summer we had an Egyptian government official here studying our cotton. He visited all the southern states, and was so impressed by the agricultural conditions that he has decided

to come to the United States to engage in cotton farming. He says that America has the best cotton-growing territory on earth."

UNCLE SAM'S COTTON BELT.

"Where are the chief cotton fields of the United States?"

"They include the whole of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, the Indian Territory and the eastern third of Texas. If you will draw a line from Norfolk, Va., westward through southern Virginia, on along the northern border of Tennessee, and then north through Cairo, Ill., and westward again across southern Missouri, to where the Kansas and Missouri lines come together, you will have the northern boundary. From the end of that line run a line south through the western part of Indian Territory to 100 miles or more west of Brownsville, Tex., and you have blocked out our cotton-producing area. In that region is grown about four-fifths of all the cotton of the world. There are more than 27,000,000 acres under cultivation and there are at least 1,500,000 cotton farms."

"Which state produces most, Dr. Galloway?"

"Texas. It had last year more than twice as much land under cultivation as any other state, and its product was more than 2,700,000 bales. Next to it came Georgia, with almost 1,600,000 bales, and then Mississippi, 1,400,000, and Alabama, 1,331,000 bales."

"Where is the center of cotton production?"

"It is just about where it was half a century ago. It was then 25 miles southwest of Birmingham, Ala. In 1860 it was seventy-eight miles west of Jackson, Miss., and in 1890 92 miles northeast of that point. In 1900 it was 34 miles west of Jackson, so that you see the cotton territory is well blocked out, and it does not vary much from year to year."

EUROPE AND AMERICAN COTTON.

"It is our cotton that keeps the factories of the world going, is it not, Dr. Galloway?"

"Yes, the great nations across the water are dependent upon us for their raw material. Any change in cotton production is rapidly felt in the manufacturing centers of Great Britain and Europe. It affects wages, it determines the food supply, and sometimes even life itself. During the last two years there has been great distress in many English manufacturing towns on account of the high price of raw cotton. About a year ago, it is said, 450,000 laborers there were working short time, and the relief funds had to be raised for them."

JOHN BULL RAISING COTTON.

"But John Bull is trying to make himself independent of our cotton, is he not?"

"I believe so, but there is little prospect that he will be able to do so. He has no territory which compares with America in the production of cotton. The British Cotton Growers' association has been active in trying to raise cot-

ton in Africa, India and the West Indies. Cotton is being planted along the Soudan and also in Nigeria, on the Gold coast, and in Sierra Leone and Gambia; but so far the only success of account is in Egypt. There, the yield aggregates something like 800,000 bales per annum, which is less than one-third of the annual crop of Texas."

"The Germans are also trying to raise cotton in their African possessions. The Kolonial-Kirtschaftliche Komitee of Berlin has been arousing interest in the subject. It has collected cotton seed and distributed it throughout the various German-American colonies. It offers premiums for the best crops and gives free transportation from Germany to the colonies. It has even gone so far as to promise to buy the entire crop at a fixed price if it is delivered at the coast ready for shipment, and also to furnish the planters machinery, at greatly reduced prices. Some of the German steamship lines have agreed to transport this season's crop free of charge."

"In order to carry out these experiments Germany has secured cotton experts from the southern states to take charge of them. She is also sending her methods of cotton culture which prevail in the south. So far we have no definite statistics showing just what the Germans are doing in Africa, but we know that her first cotton shipment from her colonies was received in December, 1902, and that it consisted only of four bales. It will be a long time before any fear need be felt from Germany as a cotton competitor."

RUSSIAN COTTON.

"How about Russia?"

"The Russians have some cotton fields on the other side of the Caspian sea and they are now growing several hundred thousand bales per year. They are increasing their cotton area. This is also true of India and Egypt, but the growth is nowhere so large as in the United States. Within the past twenty years we have increased our product more than 96 per cent or about five and one-half million bales per annum."

WORRIED.



The Russian outbreak is worrying the European rulers. Even Queen Wilhelmina would not feel over secure should the Russian outbreak succeed, for the spirit of liberty has permeated even quiet Holland.

There is no doubt but that the increase will go on, especially if the demand of the world is such as will keep up the prices."

UNCLE SAM, EXPORTER.

"Are our cotton exports increasing, Dr. Galloway?" I asked.

"Yes. In 1880 we exported only four and one-half million bales of raw cotton. Last year our exports amounted to more than 7,000,000 bales, with the exception of three years, was the largest amount of cotton the United States has ever exported in a single year."

"Another thing which is even more important," continued Dr. Galloway, "is that we are rapidly increasing our exports of manufactured cotton. We are pushing our cotton bales, not only in part of the world. We sent abroad last year more than \$40,000,000 worth, and we shall send more from year to year. It is this that is troubling the European nations. As long as we furnished only the raw material they did not care, but they now look upon us as a big competitor in the sale of the manufactured goods of the world. We are extending our markets, not only in Europe, but in the orient and especially in Japan. Japan has now about 1,500,000 spindles and she uses six or seven hundred thousand bales of cotton annually. A large part of this comes from the United States. As to our exports of cotton fabrics, our best customers are the United Kingdom, \$1,268,000; Germany, \$1,100,000; France, about \$2,000,000; and Turkey, \$367,000. We send more than \$2,000,000 worth of cotton goods to Canada; more than \$1,700,000 worth to Mexico; and Central America; more than \$2,000,000 worth to the West Indies and about \$4,600,000 worth to South America. We are now selling, in round numbers, \$16,000,000 worth of cotton goods, \$15,000,000 worth to Oceania, and \$681,000 worth to Africa. So you see, our manufactured cottons form no small part of our national exports."

BIG FACTORIES OF THE SOUTH.

"Where are the chief cotton factories of the United States?"

"Until within a few years they were almost all in the north," said Dr. Galloway, "but some of the biggest and best of the cotton mills of the world are to be found in the southern states. In 1844 the northern mills consumed 1,537,000 bales of cotton, while the southern mills consumed only 340 bales. Last year, only nineteen years later, the northern mills took 1,965,000 bales, while the southern mills took 1,958,000 bales. In other words, the southern mills consumed as much within 8,600 bales as the northern mills. There are now 440 cotton mills and 7,000,000 spindles. The southern cotton cloth is, however, less valuable than that produced in the north, only the cheaper grades being manufactured in the south."

"What kind of labor have you in the southern cotton factories?"

"Most of them are worked with white labor. The labor is cheaper there, and as the mills are right in the cotton fields the cost of transportation is less."

COTTON RAISING MACHINERY.

"Can machinery be used in the cotton fields, Dr. Galloway?"

"It is being used and more and more will be used in the future. There are machine cotton pickers now made, which promise to be successful. The best is one invented by Mr. Lowry, the inventor of the round bale. By its use one man is said to do the work of four. If it proves a success, it will save thousands of dollars to the farmers of the south by enabling them to gather the crop before it is damaged by the weather. This would also solve some of the difficulties which we are now having in the district invaded by the cotton boll weevil."

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Santo Domingo, the Improvident Mulatto Republic

THE recent determination of the United States to assume temporary control of the finances of the Dominican republic once more brings that restless little West Indian government into public view. It has been apparent for some time that affairs in the republic have reached a critical stage. Its chief difficulty, eliminating the ever present tendency to revolutionize at the slightest pretext, seems to be a wonderful capacity to get into debt and a corresponding incapacity to get out again.

The national debt of the tiny mulatto republic now amounts to the respectable total of \$35,000,000, which in consideration of the comparatively unimportant figure cut by Santo Domingo in the congress of western nations is altogether too great. That has been the opinion of its impatient creditors for a long time, and more than one of them has protested that some settlement should be effected. Some of them have even declared their willingness to undertake a receivership, promising to wind up the affairs of the improvident republic with amazing celerity.

Such a proposition, from a foreign state—Santo Domingo has shown a remarkable impartiality in the selection of her victims, many of them being European—could not be tolerated by the United States. The shades of the late James Monroe would rise in indignant protest at the mere suggestion. If there is any adjusting to be done it is clearly the privilege of the United States to do it. There does not seem to be the slightest objection to that way out of the difficulty. It is most satisfactory to the foreign creditors, and the Dominicans themselves were so enthusiastic over the proposition that they tried at once to borrow more money on the strength of it.

In the carrying out of its preliminary interference it will be necessary to accept Samana bay as a coaling station. The presence of an American garrison at Samana would be a wholesome check to the passion for revolution which seems to possess the citizens of the island.

The island on which the republic of Santo Domingo is established is, next to Cuba, the largest of the West Indies. One-third of its area is devoted to the republic of Haiti, and the remainder constitutes Santo Domingo. These contiguous republics are often confused, but they are quite dissimilar in most features. The Dominicans are much more refined and circumspect in their ways than their neighbors and are less addicted to actual bloodshed in their periodical revolutions. They are for the most part mulattoes of Spanish and negro origin. The few Spanish families that have not intermingled with the prevailing type constitute the aristocracy of the republic and hold themselves loftily aloof from their less fortunate neighbors.

Education in its proper sense is prac-



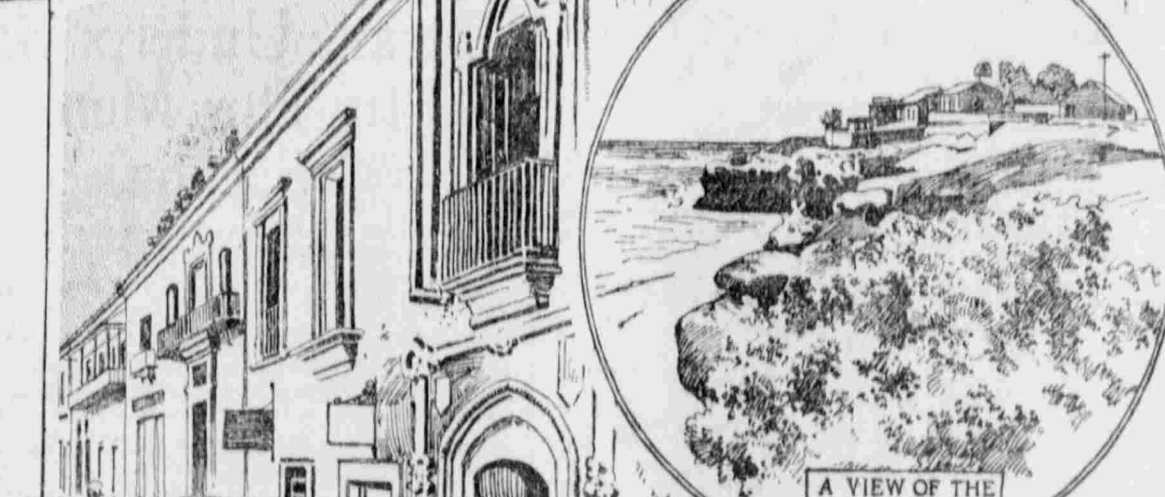
ENTRANCE TO THE HARBOR OF SANTO DOMINGO



PRESIDENT MORALES



NATIONAL PALACE



A VIEW OF THE COAST



STREET SCENE SANTO DOMINGO

tically unknown. The parish priests have established a few schools of an elementary character, which are under the supervision of sisters and lay brothers of the mendicant orders. These schools are entirely insufficient and are not well patronized. The average Dominican has not yet awakened to the necessity of adding to the knowledge which nature has endowed him. The mulatto population, numbering at least half a million, is not inclined to be quarrelsome, but trouble is fomented by political tricksters who are trying constantly to ob-

tain an opportunity to loot the public treasury. The people are for the most part industrious and patient, submitting to continual misgovernment and official peculation with remarkable good nature.

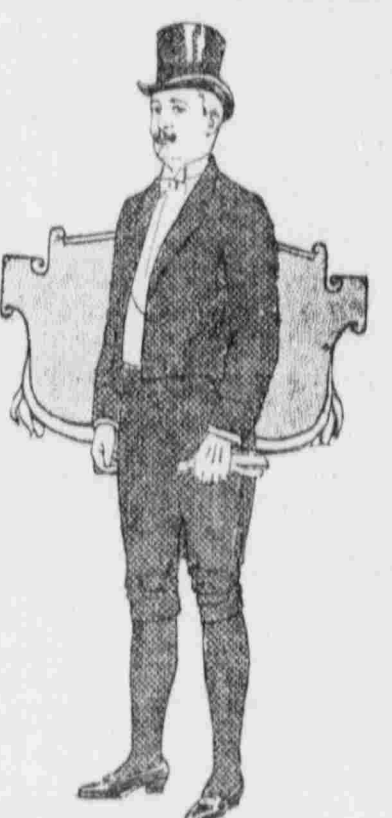
The president of the republic is practically a dictator. As often as suits his convenience he submits to an election, and he is careful to have it occur at a time when there is no well-organized opposition. The general system of government is copied after that of the United States. Officials are plentiful, and the national revenues are far from

sufficient to maintain the annual expenditure. Add to this the fact that a large proportion of the legally collectible revenue never reaches the national treasury, and the cause of Santo Domingo's bankruptcy becomes apparent. With a population of 610,000, about one-twelfth that of the state of New York, and an area of 15,045 square miles, about one-third that of the Empire State, Santo Domingo is divided into twelve provinces. This means twelve governors, each with his staff and retinue. There are also fifty-eight minor communal governments and more than sixty alcaldes, each entitled to a company of soldiers and numerous underlings.

The annual revenue is \$1,700,000, and the military establishment, including the navy, costs \$4,800,000 a year. All the officials are the personal appointees of the president, and the army is composed of men friendly to his interests. Judging from the past, the chief object of each administration has been to quiet the people of the largest possible amount before a revolution brings

COUNT CARTEVILLE, THE DRESS REFORMER.

Count Carteville is a modern Beau Brummell who has recently made something of a stir in British fashionable circles by appearing at various functions requiring full dress in the attire shown in the cut. The count is a stickler for the conventions of the social world, but he has declared war against the ungraceful garment which



has so long been the accepted covering for the male neck extremities. He has initiated a vigorous crusade against the monstrosity and suggests as a substitute the becoming knee breeches of the Georgian period. Count Carteville is not the only reformer who has devoted himself to the downfall of long trousers, but others, whose names seem to have accepted them for better or for worse.

BICYCLES IN FRANCE.

According to an official statement published, 1,310,223 bicycles were taxed in France in 1903, being 103,481 more than in 1902. The department of the Seine (Paris) had the largest number (244,356) and Correze, the smallest (237). The number of motor cycles was 19,816 and of automobiles 19,856.

FOOD OF THE FUTURE.

"Man will eat 200 or 300 more foods in the year 2000 than he eats now," said a chemist. "A movement is on foot among the world's governments to increase the variety of our foods, and every week from somewhere or other a new vegetable or fruit or nut is added to the international bill of fare."

WILLIAM K. LANE.