

CHICKASHA DAILY EXPRESS

EVANS & SMITH
—PUBLISHERS—

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A GRAVE FARM PROBLEM,

According to the assessor's returns there are 2361 farms, large and small, in Grady county. Of these 818 are filled by owners and the remainder, 1543, are cultivated by renters.

Any effort to improve agricultural conditions in the county must include thoughtful, earnest consideration of these figures. It is evident that the problem of better farming is not to be solved by the cultivators of the soil alone but in a large measure it is up to the landlords.

A tenant without a comfortable home, adequate barns and other essentials isn't going to accomplish very much and he isn't going to remain long on a place. Without substantial improvements the tenant portion of the population is constantly shifting, the soil suffers and the returns of neither landlord nor tenant can be satisfactory.

As time goes on and homeseekers come from other states, investing in our land, it is reasonable to expect that the proportion of farms filled by owners will increase, but for a number of years to come, we must deal with conditions as they exist and those conditions are shown the assessor's figures.

The ideal country is one in which every farm is filled by the owner, but while tenantry is a condition that holds back progress, it isn't necessarily inconsistent with successful farming; that depends upon the character of the tenant and the landlord and the relations existing between them. Not long ago we published a true story from Kansas. It told about one farm that had been owned by one man and occupied by one tenant for over 25 years. During that time, the tenant had acquired several farms of his own, all bought with the money he made on the leased farm. Also during that time the leased farm was constantly improved, barns and a large modern dwelling being erected; the landlord and tenant were working together, both realizing handsome profits and the farm meantime increasing in value; the tenant didn't want to move to another farm and the landlord was satisfied with his tenant. Something like the same stable and prosperous condition may be brought about by the same system in the case of every landlord and tenant.

The landlord who seeks to get all the immediate returns that the "traff" will stand, at the same time hoping to benefit by increasing farm values, is pursuing a short-sighted policy that can never make for perma-

nent progress and profits. The farm "plant" must be equipped for successful operations, just as any other kind of plant must be. The good tenant will not remain on a poorly equipped place. A local banker informed us that he has known numerous instances of men with money coming to this county, expecting ultimately to invest in a farm, but desiring to lease temporarily in order to try out the country, but they went away when they didn't find properly improved farms to rent. In this brief article we have barely touched upon the great problems involved in the condition that exists in this county. It is one to which land owners and all interested in the development of the county must give more serious attention if we are to put Grady county on a permanently prosperous basis.

ABOLISHING HELL.

Personally we are strongly in favor of the proposal to abolish hell, as advocated by Pastor Russell, but to be perfectly candid, we seriously question whether it is practicable to accomplish this momentous undertaking in the immediate future. Furthermore, we doubt whether this reform can be brought about or even furthered by the methods which Bro. Russell is using.

According to our dim understanding, hell is a condition and not a theory that confronts us; if it were a theory it might easily be abolished without a referendum or even an extra session of the legislature, because even the most plausible theories are easily knocked down with dialectics.

Pastor Russell has been carrying on his anti-hell crusade all over the country. He made an onslaught last week on Satan's dominions in Oklahoma City where, it appears, his plans met with favor, the sinners of that community eagerly embracing the opportunity to escape from the lake of fire and brimstone. Bro. Russell's scheme, however, met with opposition from some of the ministers of the city who are strictly in favor of maintaining warm quarters for sinful souls in the hereafter, and now the fight is on, the issue simply being: hell or no hell.

The layman naturally hesitates to butt into this learned discussion but the issue is squarely before us and we cannot evade it. Frankly, for our own part, we have no positive information as to the geography and climatic conditions of the land known as the Great Beyond. It may be hotter than Coreordia, Kan., or colder than Teel-land. Be that as it may, we cannot

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see that it will materially affect the comfort and well being of folks on this side of the creek whether Pastor Russell succeeds in his reform or not. He might be able to drain the fiery lake or even freeze it up as fast as the Arctic sea, and still hell would be a condition confronting us over here and that's where the real rub comes.

It can scarcely be questioned that hell is the real thing over here and that is far more important to us in a practical way than whether it exists in the hereafter. To abolish this very real hell—the evil that exists in human hearts, the injustice practiced among men, the squalor and vice that breed human misery and degradation—is a matter that engages the attention of all good people, but it can't be done by theoretical discussion of the abstract question raised by Bro. Russell. We seriously doubt whether any man's soul has ever been made better or worse by fear or lack of fear of punishment in the hereafter, because fear as an incentive to action doesn't touch the real roots of human character.

As we see it, this whole question, as raised by Pastor Russell and the theologians who are taking issue with him, is an illustration of what the biologists call "atavism," which is defined as the "recurrence of any peculiarity or disease of an ancestor in a subsequent generation, after an intermission for a generation or two." It carries us back to the time it was thought that the purpose of religion was to prepare men and women for bliss in the "sweet bye and bye," and when the emphasis was placed on theology rather than life. That sort of thinking is characteristic of the primitive type of mind, and the spectacle of scholarly men engaging in wordy wars on an abstract issue, bearing little relation to the problems of life and death confronting the church, the state and society in this modern world, wears something of the serio-comic aspect; it would be altogether ludicrous if it were not pitiful.

ONE FARMER'S EXPERIENCE.

Here is a story that carries its own lesson so clearly that no comment is necessary. In a farmers' meeting in Mississippi not long ago a man arose and said:

"In 1907 I owed \$900 on my 100 acre farm; had two ponies, small plows and wagon. The merchants in my town would not credit me for five cents because they thought it impossible for me to make a living for my family of seven children and pay my debts.

"In the spring of 1907 the local agent in the demonstration work visited me and urged me to cultivate one acre of cotton under the government's instructions. He told me he wanted me to break the land eight inches deep. Of course I did not have a team strong enough to break the land this deep, but after talking the matter over with the agent I decided to borrow a team from my neighbors and try one acre. Before that time I had cultivated 12 acres of cotton and had never made over three bales. On the one acre that I cultivated under the government's instructions in 1907 I made a full bale of cotton. This was an eye-opener to me and I began to work in earnest in 1908 and determined not to stop until I could make every acre of land on my farm produce one bale of cotton each year. In 1908 I produced six bales of cotton on my twelve acres; in 1909 I produced nine bales of cotton on the 12 acres. I believe that I will finally grow two bales of cotton on every acre that I cultivate.

"Merchants now run after me to sell me goods. I have paid the debt on my place, have four fine mules and the future looks bright. I have one son and one daughter in college this year and believe that I am going to be able to give all my children a college education."

At the close of this talk a merchant arose and testified to the truth of the statements, adding: "In 1907 I would not have credited this man for a plug of tobacco; now I would give him credit for \$500 any time that he wants it."

Gabe—"He claims he is a descendant from a great family."
Steve—"Yes, and he is still descending."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

EXPRESS PACKETTES.
Now Everybody Sing.
"Showers, yes showers of blessings,"
This is the song that we sing;
Visions of bumper crops coming!
Think of the coin they will bring.

A dozen kind words cost no more than one.

Umbrella and McIntosh market slightly bullish.

One trouble with Oklahoma is that it is never safe to leave home in the morning without carrying an umbrella.

Every fly should have enough self-respect, to say nothing of good manners, to keep out of the butter dish.

We have asked "Bud" Bryan to explain for the "scrappag" his method of cutting and fitting a Bulgarian blouse.

What has become of the old fashioned man who used to make a noise like a horse drinking when he took his soup or coffee?

Probably there never was a woman who on moving into another house didn't discover that the former occupants left it in a "perfectly awful fix."

If you are perfectly satisfied that the country isn't going to suffer from excessive rains and still want something to worry about, look ahead and fancy what the hot winds will do to us—if they come.

Tom Dwyer will now have to admit that Old Doc Foster is a bum weather prophet. Foster said it wouldn't rain from April till July and Tom had glooms hanging around him ever since he read the dismal prediction.

If you think you are smart when you discover a misplaced letter in the paper, it may help you some to sit down and figure out how many mistakes you would have made if you had done the job. About 60,000 letters daily go through the linotype machine which sets type for the Express. The operator must have a good eye and skillful fingers to get all of them right.

A STOLEN SMILE'R TWO.

Unanimous.
"The Lord loveth a cheerful giver,"
quoted the Wise Guy.

"Well, who doesn't?" retorted the Snake Mug—Philadelphia Record.

Referred to Lexicographer.
Teacher—"What is the derivation of the word lunatic?"

Pupil—"Luna, the moon, and—er—attic, the upper story."—Town Topics.

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There is no odor—and it cuts the frying bill in two.

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JUST A THOUGHT
Ere the Day is Gone.

If I were drowned in the deepest sea I know whose tears would come down to me.
Mother o' mine.

If I were hanged on the highest hill I know whose love would follow me still.
Mother o' mine.

If I were damned of body and soul I know whose prayers would make me whole.
Mother o' mine
—Rudyard Kipling.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.
Compiled by the Grady County Abstract Company, 112 North Third Street.

V. Bronaugh and wife to C. M. Hewitt, 5-26-12. \$2310; N 1/2 SE NE; N 1/2 SW NE; N 1/2 NE; N 1/2 NW 19; NE NE SE 16-7-5.

Thos. Blakeley and wife to Carrie Blakeley, 1-16-13. \$1; lots 1, 2, 3, block 1, Bradley; 1/2 block 2, Bradley; N 1/2 SW NW; S 1/2 NW NW west of railway; S WSW NW and 196 by 316 ft. out of NW NW NW 26-5-3.

J. A. Williams and wife to T. S. Hendrick, 6-6-13. \$75; NW SE SW 7-4-5.

A. E. Comes (single) to Charles Novy, 5-8-13, \$11,340; part of lot 8, lots 9 and 10, and SE 1-4 section 7-7-8.

There is Nothing Better. Hunt the world over and you will not find a better remedy for diarrhoea than Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It always cures. For sale by all dealers.—Adv. d&w

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